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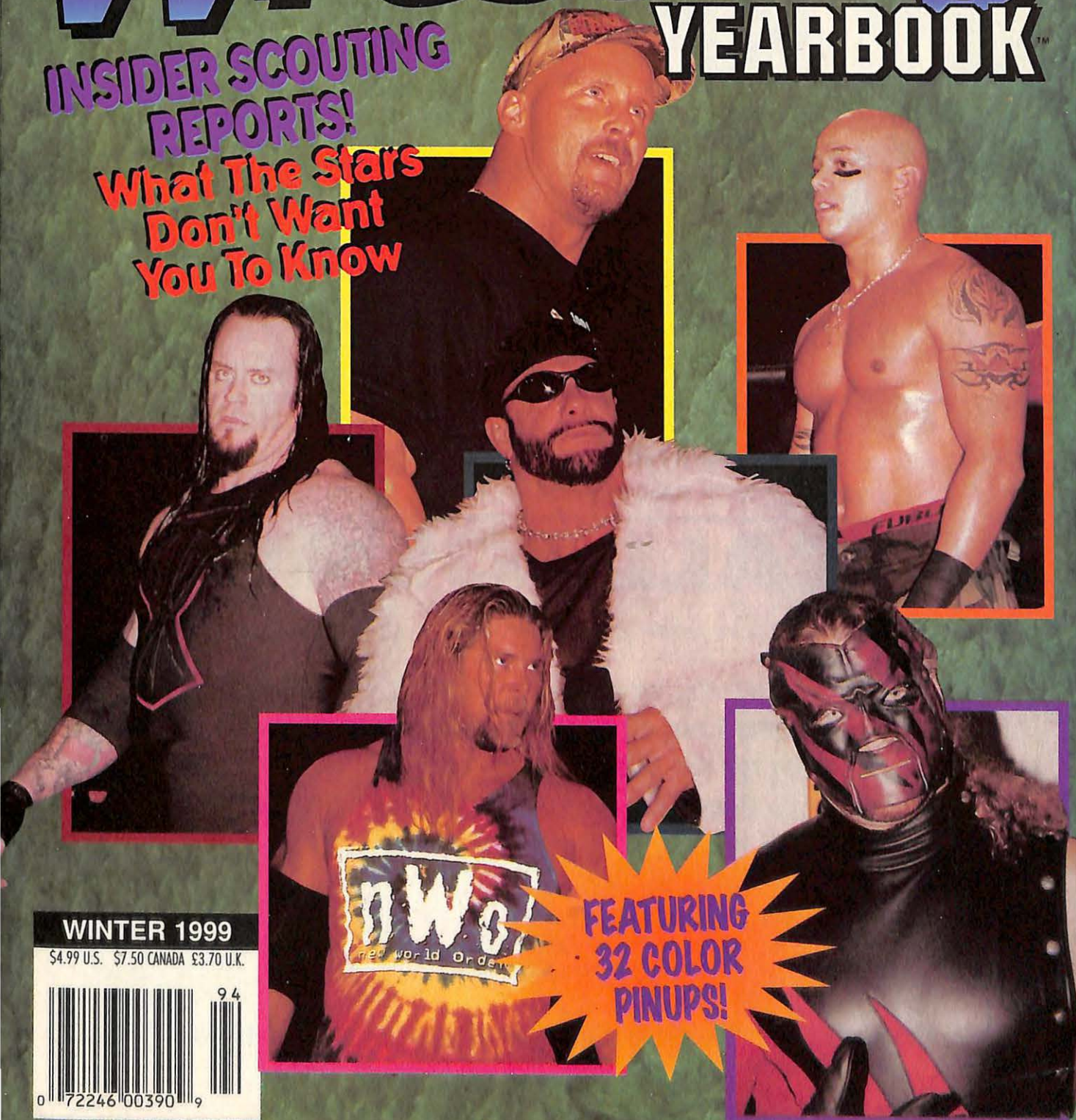
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Wrestling

INSIDER SCOUTING YEARBOOK™

INSIDER SCOUTING REPORTS!

REPORT What The Stars Don't Want You To Know



WINTER 1999

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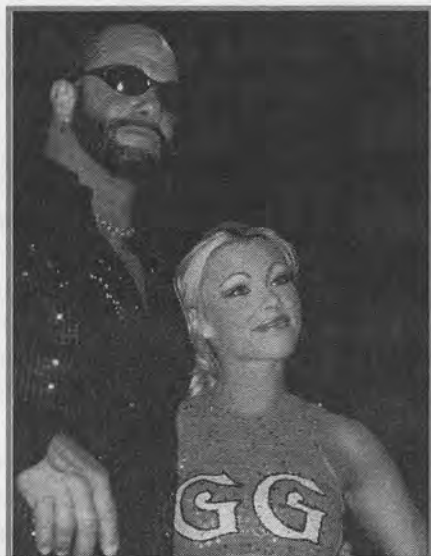
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Welcome To

INSIDE WRESTLING EXTRA: WRESTLING YEARBOOK!

THERE'S MORE TO wrestling than bulging muscles, breakneck speed, and daredevil aerial attacks. Today, a wrestler can't expect to succeed unless he plants himself in front of the videotape machine and bones up on his competition. Every wrestler is a different combination of power, agility, and technical ability. Every wrestler has distinctive strengths and weaknesses. The most successful wrestlers are the ones who know what their opponents are going to do before they do it. They are the wrestlers who have scouted their opponents properly.

Some wrestlers are fast starters. Some are fast finishers. Some get worn down after 12 minutes, while others are just getting started at the 12-minute mark. Every wrestler has a quirk in his game that is unexpected. From appearances alone, you'd think a

brawler such as Hollywood Hogan would do his best work in the first five minutes, but you'd be wrong: Hogan has historically scored most of his pins between 12 and 18 minutes.

In all sports there are opponents that teams dread facing even though they are the ones recognized as the odds-on favorite. In 1969, the New York Mets won the World Series despite losing 10 of their 12 games against the lowly Houston Astros. In soccer, the United States national team has upset Argentina's national team in two consecutive meetings.

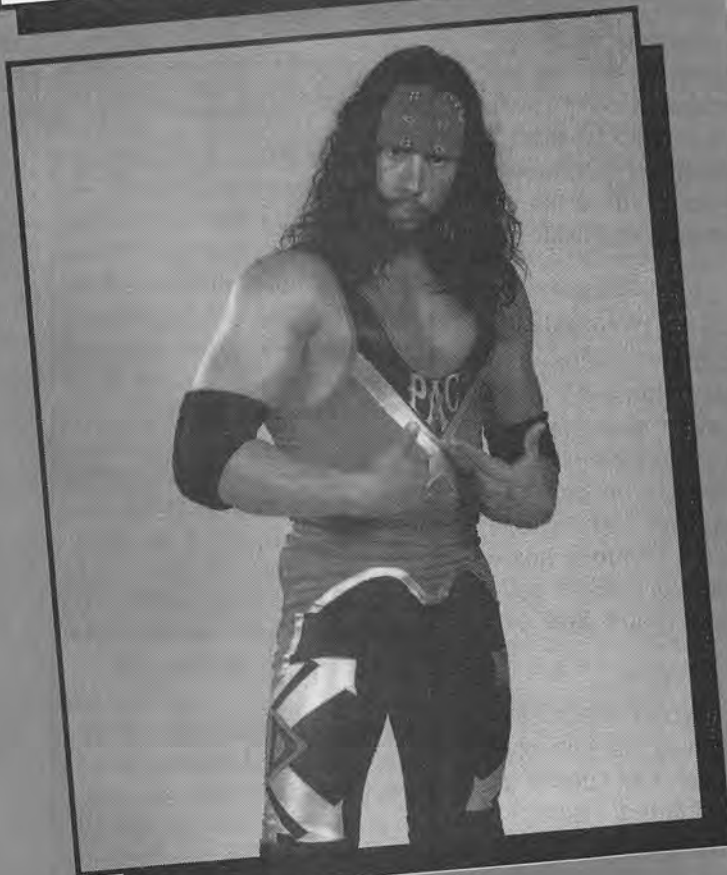
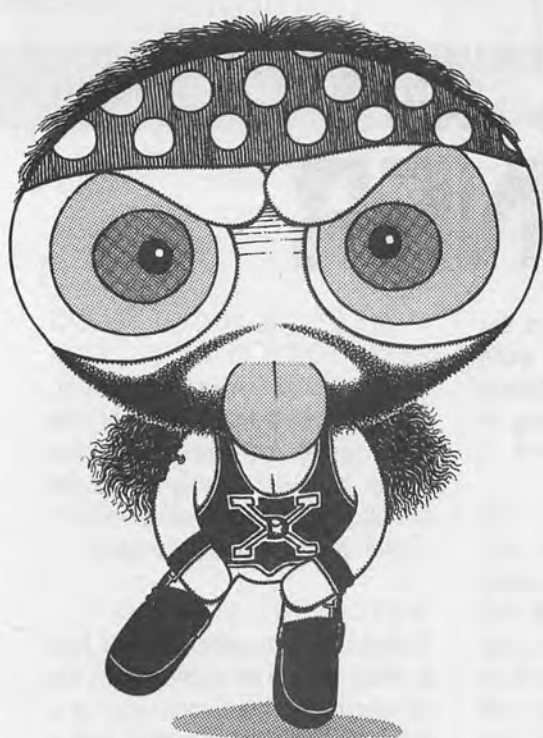
The same is true in wrestling. Some wrestlers simply don't want to face certain opponents. In 1995, a plebeian Barry Horowitz frustrated Skip of The Bodydonnas (Chris Candido) to no end. For some inexplicable reason, Horowitz, unable to garner a victory against

anyone else in the federation, thrived against Skip, even beating him at SummerSlam.

In this special issue, we've analyzed 29 of the sport's top stars in a variety of categories. You'll learn more about these wrestlers than you've ever known before. What you're probably even more excited about seeing is some more of cartoonist Jason Conlan's best work. For the fourth straight year, each scouting report is accompanied by a hilarious caricature of the star or stars. It's Jason at his finest (he also contributes to each regular issue of *PWI*). And if that's not enough, we also have for you 32 spectacular full-color pinups!

If you have any comments on this year's edition of *WRESTLING YEARBOOK*, write to us at: *WRESTLING YEARBOOK*, Box 1148, Fort Washington, PA 19034. Right now it's time to read on ... and enjoy.

—The Editors



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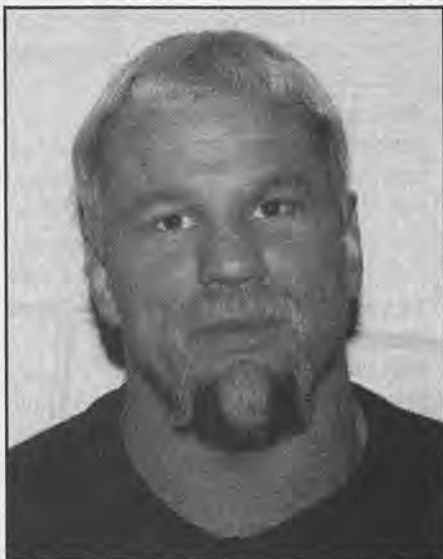
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SCOUTING REPORT:

SCOTT STEINER



CAREER OVERVIEW: You used to know him as one of the most humble and hardest working wrestlers in the world. Now you know him as "Big Poppa Pump," an egotistical musclehead whose in-ring behavior is scary at times. For a little more than eight years, beginning with their first WCW World title win in November 1989, Scott and his brother, Rick, dominated the tag team scene, winning WWF World, WCW World, and IWGP tag team titles. They were PWI's Tag Team of the Year in 1990 and 1993. On February 22, 1998, Scott turned against his brother at SuperBrawl VIII and joined the NWO. He reunited with Rick in May of this year. Has been limited by back and hip injuries over the years, but won the WCW U.S. and TV titles in 1999.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first eight minutes. Tag team wrestlers don't need a ton of stamina, but Scott was always able to go deep into

matches. That's not always the case now. Injuries have worn him down and he has clearly ignored anaerobic training in favor of muscle development.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Eight to 15 minutes. And his matches rarely last longer than that. Scott has an extensive mat repertoire, but he now relies almost entirely on suplexes and power. Keep him in the ring for a while and you probably have him beat.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Mid-level brawlers who can't match his power or skill. He has fared well against Booker T, with whom he has feuded for most of the year. Steiner's wins, however, have mostly occurred via the use of foreign objects and with outside help.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: First of all, you're never going to get Steiner to admit that he doesn't want to face anyone. He's a complete egotist who is convinced he can beat anyone, anytime, anywhere. Any wrestler with more power and polished mat skills is going to give today's Scott Steiner a hard time.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Anything that puts pressure on the back. Lex Luger's torture rack and Sting's scorpion deathlock are great examples. Steiner has suffered numerous back injuries throughout his career; it's the most vulnerable part of his body.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A little humility. Steiner used to be one of the most respected wrestlers in the world. Now he's known more for his huge ego and obsession with showing off his sculpted body.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Belly-to-belly suplex. Steiner has a wide variety of suplexes in his repertoire, perhaps most than any wrestler in WCW. He also has a pretty effective Steiner recliner—a variation of the camel clutch—and a lethal Frankenstein.

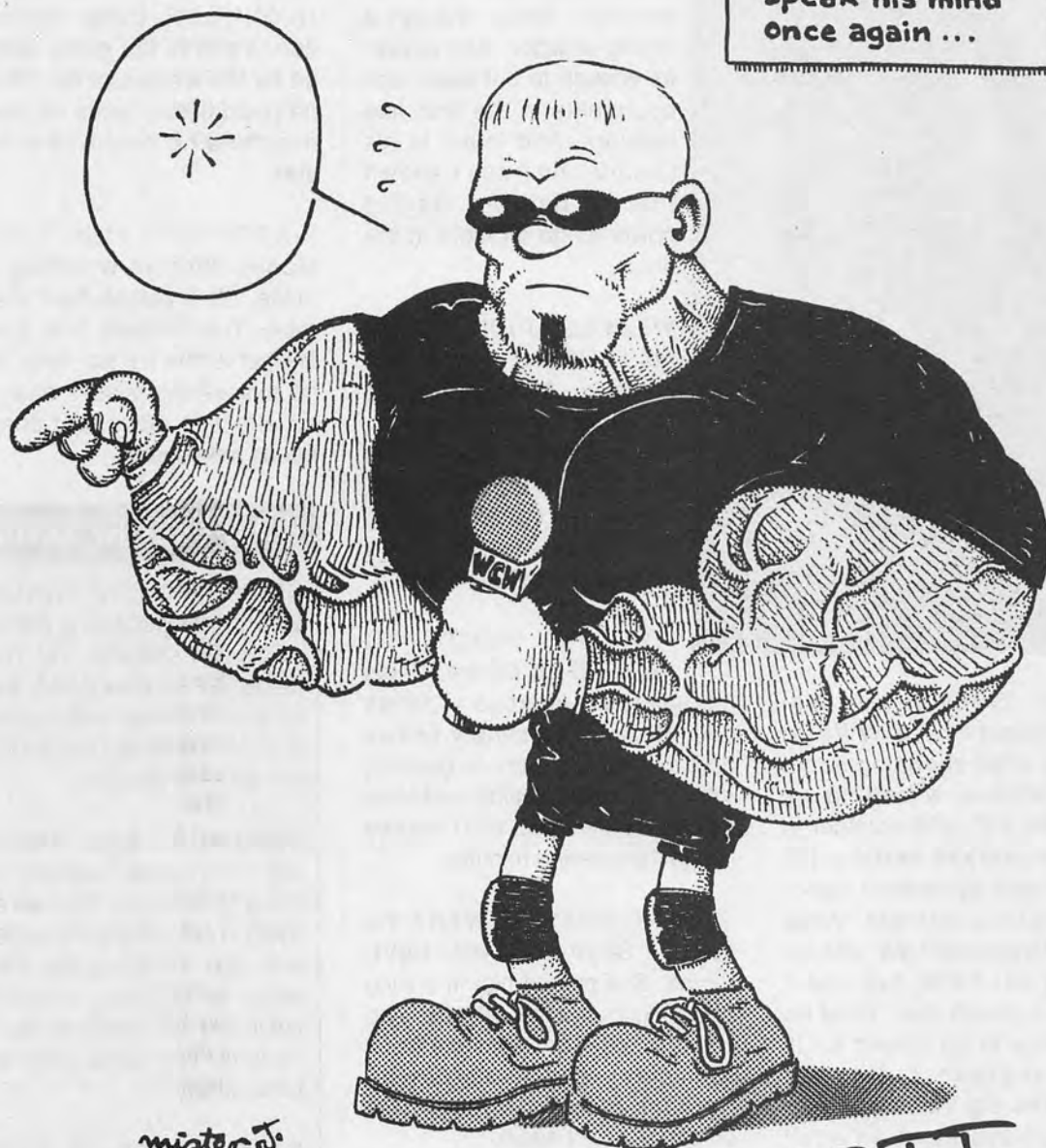
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Rick Steiner: "It's good to be back on the same side with my brother, 'Big Poppa Pump.' It's back to wreaking havoc on the wrestling world, just like we've always done. Like my mother always said, as long as we stay together, there ain't nothing we can't accomplish."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "I have a hard time taking him seriously. First of all, he's almost comically muscular. He's simply too big for his own good and doesn't seem to quite have the agility he once had."

Booker T: "That sucker always has a couple of dudes who run into the ring and help him whenever he gets into trouble. He never would have won that U.S. title if not for people helping him out. It's time for him to learn a few lessons about life."

scotty takes the
opportunity to
speak his mind
once again ...



SCOTT
STEINER

SCOUTING REPORT:

VAL VENIS



CAREER OVERVIEW: Val Venis arrived in the WWF in mid-1998 after spending some time in Mexico wrestling as Steele. The 6'2", 250-pounder is an above-average aerial artist who can also overpower opponents with brute strength. Venis won the Intercontinental title on February 14, 1999, but lost it less than a month later. What he really wants to be known for is his sexual prowess. He calls himself "The Big Valbowski" and claims to have been an adult film star. He enraged Ken Shamrock by having a fling with Ryan, Ken's younger sister. He has also been involved with Terri Runnels and Nicole Bass. He spends a lot of his time these days wrestling in mixed tag team matches.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 10 to 15 minutes. Venis, though a strong wrestler, isn't powerful enough to put away elite opponents in the first five minutes. And much to his chagrin, he hasn't shown that he has the staying power to go all night in the ring.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first five minutes. After giving his obligatory prematch speech, which is always full of boasts about his sexual adventures, Venis has a hard time getting his mind on wrestling. That's when he's most vulnerable.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: D-Lo Brown. Venis has scored numerous victories over Brown and simply knows how to beat the man. In general, Venis fares best against mid-level power wrestlers who can't destroy him in the opening minutes.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Chyna. That's right, Chyna. She pinned him in a King of the Ring qualifier (though she needed help from Hunter Hearst Helmsley), and Venis has no intention of going through that embarrassment again.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The pedigree. Chyna used Helmsley's finisher to dismantle Venis in the King of the Ring qualifier. Unless he figures out how to reverse or block the move, Venis had better get accustomed to losing.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Better concentration. Venis is too easily distracted by the women of the WWF. If he could simply focus on winning matches, he could be a major star.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Money shot. In wrestling parlance, it's a splash from the top rope. The problem with Venis's finisher is that it's too risky. When he misses, he misses badly. It's an effective move, but one that needs refinement.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Chyna: "That must have been the most embarrassing moment of his life. Imagine, Val Venis pinned by a woman! He's like a lot of men around here. He loves to boast, but he can't back up his talk with a lot of action."

Publisher Stu Saks: "Wrestlers like Venis cause magazine editors a lot of trouble. Here we are, trying to put out a family publication, but wrestlers like Venis insist on speaking in double entendres and billing themselves as former porn stars. Is this really necessary?"

Ken Shamrock: "A guy like Venis opens his mouth a little too often for my taste, and if you ask me, it's only a matter of time before he gets what's coming to him. He thinks he's the greatest thing on earth, but he's going find out differently real soon."

VAL VENIS



SCOUTING REPORT:

RIC FLAIR



CAREER OVERVIEW: More than 27 years after making his pro debut, he won his 14th world championship by beating Hollywood Hogan for the WCW title. Sure, referee Charles Robinson's questionable officiating had a lot to do with Flair's victory at Uncensored, but he can still headline any card. For much of 1998, he was broiled in a very public legal dispute with WCW. Resolved his differences with WCW, and upon his return, he became more popular than ever because of his feud with Eric Bischoff. Wrestled the WCW presidency from Bischoff and corrupted the office, as well as his reputation. Before long, Flair was as hated as Bischoff had ever been. Now he and Roddy Piper, rivals during the first half of 1999, are out to prove that the old guard still owns the fort in WCW.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Flair used to be a

marathon man. The longer a match lasted, the better he got. But injuries and age have taken their toll on this 50-year-old. He needed 14 minutes (and a crooked referee) to beat Hollywood Hogan for the WCW World title on March 14. That's about his limit these days.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first five minutes. Always a slow starter, Flair has become even more vulnerable to quick starters such as Sting, who can throw him off-balance

from the opening bell with an array of moves.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Roddy Piper. He's seven years younger, but he's suffered about as many injuries as the "Nature Boy." While Piper was off making movies, Flair was honing his skills against wrestlers who were getting increasingly younger and younger.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Sting. We've lost track of how many times Sting has beaten Flair this year. Sting is younger, he's too fast, and he has too varied a repertoire for Flair.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The scorpion deathlock. Any kind of leglock finisher. Flair has suffered numerous injuries to his knees and back over the years. Any move that puts pressure on these two areas spells trouble.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: The realization that maybe it's time to reduce his wrestling schedule. Maybe he should take a cue from Wayne Gretzky and Michael Jordan and retire while he's still reasonably close to being at the top of his game.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Figure-four leglock. The classic Flair finisher. The one that's imitated, but has never been precisely duplicated. These days, though, his competition is reversing it more and more.

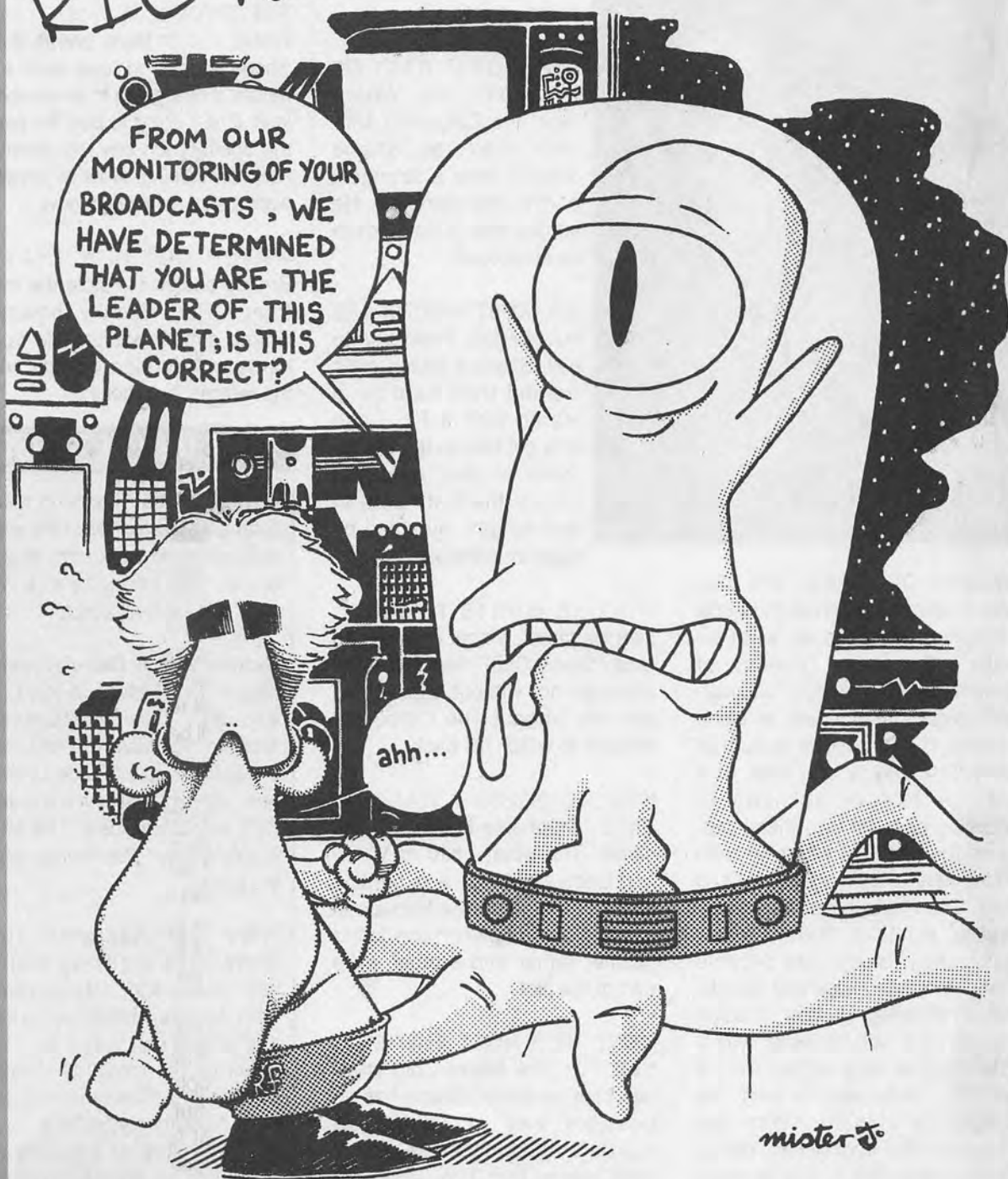
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Sting: "I appreciate all that Flair has done for the sport and his outstanding record, but the Flair of today is not the Flair of yesterday. That being said, people should still realize that Flair right now is still better than a lot of the young guys in the sport."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "The thing Flair has always had is a lot of charisma. He can still get a crowd riled up, he can still enrage an opponent, and he is still one of the most compelling figures in the sport."

WCW commentator Mike Tenay: "Flair has disgusted a lot of people over the past six months, but you have to give him credit for sticking around and still being a major player in the sport. He's the Gordie Howe of wrestling."

RIC FLAIR



The Simpsons—Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

SCOUTING REPORT:

SHANE McMAHON



CAREER OVERVIEW: The 230-pound only son of Vince and Linda McMahon grew up on what he calls "the mean streets of Greenwich, Connecticut," although finding one mean street, let alone streets, in this upscale suburb of New York City is one heck of a task. A relative unknown to wrestling fans last fall, Shane captured the spotlight when he reinstated Steve Austin after Vince had fired "The Rattlesnake," seemingly ending Austin's WWF career. Since then, Shane has become one of the most hated and sadistic men in wrestling. He later revealed that his feud with his father was a ruse and has since aligned himself with The Undertaker to form The Corporate Ministry. Won the European title from X-Pac, retired the European title so that he could hold the belt for life, had a bogus feud with his father, and is again

conspiring with Vince to destroy Austin.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Whenever The Corporate Ministry interferes. Shane doesn't have a strongest part to his matches. He simply has a time when he is rescued.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: From bell to bell. Shane's limited skills (he did train hard for a match with X-Pac) can only get him so far, like for three or four minutes, before the truth sets in and he gets humbled by superior athletes.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Like his father, Vince, he wants to face "Stone-Cold" Steve Austin, although not without stipulations and not without The Corporate Ministry to watch his back.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Stephanie McMahon. His sister. The other child of Vince and Linda McMahon was terrified when The Undertaker kidnapped her and enraged when she found out her father and brother were part of the plot.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The Stone-Cold stunner. Like his father, Shane has no possible way of countering Austin's finishing move, other than hoping that The Corporate Ministry interferes before Austin has a chance to execute it.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: More overall skill. If Shane is going to have such a big mouth, if he's going to be so obnoxious, if he's going to play the part of the spoiled rich boy, he needs to keep on training. A lot of wrestlers want a shot at him right now.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Bronco buster. He stole the move from X-Pac. Usually, however, Shane simply bashes his opponents with foreign objects when the referee isn't looking.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Gerald Brisco: "I used to think Shane was a real good kid who was willing to work hard to get ahead. Now I think we all know what this kid is all about."

Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "One McMahon was bad enough. Two McMahons? That's a nightmare. I'm squarely on Steve Austin's side in this one, although I fear it's a battle he'll ultimately lose. The McMahons have the money and the power."

WWF commentator Jim Ross: "It's amazing that a year or two ago, nobody knew who Shane McMahon was, and now, if you took a poll, he might be the most hated man in wrestling. Simply incredible. He's bloodthirsty, vicious, and he won't stop at anything to get what he wants. I would never bet against him."

i got
this far
on talent
alone...
really!

SHANE
McMAHON



mister J.

SHANE McMAHON; NEW SPOKESPERSON FOR
BURGER KING'S WHOPPER

SCOUTING REPORT:

THE DUDLEY BOYZ



CAREER OVERVIEW: The Dudleys are six-time ECW tag team champions. No team in ECW history has equaled that mark. D-Von is 6'1", 260 pounds. Buh Buh Ray is 6'2", 325 pounds. Won their first ECW tag title by beating The Eliminators on April 13, 1997, in Philadelphia. At the time, The Eliminators were considered the best tag team in ECW. Their recent reign has been the longest: They won the belts for a sixth time on April 17, 1999, when D-Von beat Rob Van Dam, co-holder of the title with Sabu, in a singles match.

STRONGEST PART OF THEIR MATCHES: Four to eight minutes. The Dudleys do a lot of horsing around in the ring prior to their matches, resulting in slow starts. But once they put their attack into full throttle, they attack and attack until they win ... or until their manager Joel Gertner interferes.

WEAKEST PART OF THEIR MATCHES: 14 to 20 minutes. Keeping the Dudleys in the ring for this long is a trick, but if opponents can prolong the match, they're much easier to beat. They simply brawl. Get them tired and they're done.

WHO THEY WANT TO FACE: Sabu and Van Dam.

This is clearly the ECW duo that gives them the most trouble, but it's also the team they most relish beating.

WHO THEY DON'T WANT TO FACE: Big brawlers. Fortunately for the Dudleys, there aren't many bigger brawlers in ECW. But we see this as one of the main obstacles to them succeeding in the WWF or WCW: They'd eventually run into bigger, stronger teams, and would have a hard time beating them.

MOVE THEY'RE MOST VULNERABLE TO: Rob Van Dam's Van Daminator. The Dudleys have fallen prey to Van Dam's favorite finisher time and time again. Because they're not good counterwrestlers, the Dudleys have no way out when caught in Van Dam's trap.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO THEIR REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS:

Some scientific skill. The best tag teams in history have combined power with science. The Dudleys are merely a catch-and-throw team.

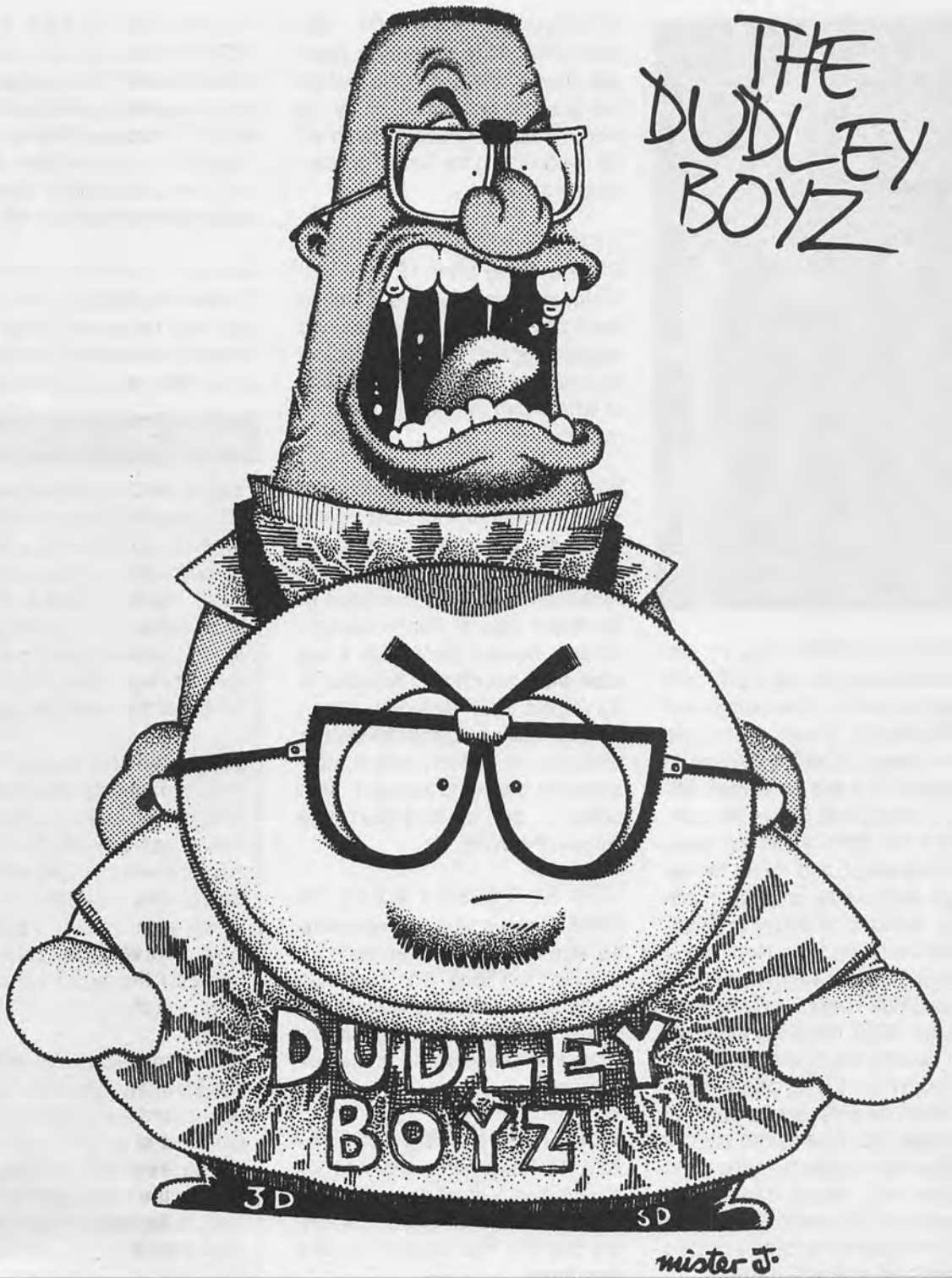
WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... 3-D. The Dudley deathdrop, their two-man finisher, is a devastating variation of the Ace crusher (or Diamond cutter) that can viciously snap an opponent's neck. Just about every one of their victories ends with the 3D.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "The Dudleys used to be an oddity, but now there's no arguing. They are one of the most successful tag teams in the world. I'm not sure they could make it in the Big Two, but then again, I never thought they'd do this well in ECW."

Jerry Lynn: "Listen, I'm not going to sit here and tell you they're not a good team. Any team that wins six ECW tag team titles must be doing something right. But to me, they're a bunch of dirty brawlers who don't want to take on the great technical wrestlers of the world."

ECW commentator Joey Styles: "They're big, they're scary, and they've beaten the crap out of a lot of opponents they weren't expected to beat. That's the bottom line about the Dudleys. Love 'em or hate 'em, you have to respect 'em."



SCOUTING REPORT:

KEVIN NASH



CAREER OVERVIEW: The 7', 356-pound former college basketball player got off to a slow start as half of The Master Blasters, Oz, and Vinnie Vegas in WCW. Moved to the WWF in 1993 as Shawn Michaels' bodyguard, Diesel. In 1994, he won the WWF World tag team, Intercontinental, and World heavyweight titles within an eight-month span. Jumped to WCW in 1996, where he formed the New World Order with former WWF mate Scott Hall and Hulk Hogan. Hall and Nash won the WCW World tag team title from Harlem Heat, and Nash won his first WCW World heavyweight title when he defeated Goldberg at Starrcade '98. Transferred the title to Hollywood Hogan by laying down for the man eight days later, cementing the reformation of the NWO. Regained the belt by beating Dallas Page on May 9, 1999.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 10 to 15 minutes. Nash has proven time and again that he has lasting power. Unlike many big men, he doesn't have to finish off his opponents in the first 10 minutes to have a chance.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Anything after 18 minutes. Fortunately, most of his matches don't last that long. But Nash has struggled against scientific wrestlers such as Bret Hart and Ric Flair, both of whom can take him deep into matches.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Sid Vicious. Sooner, not later. Nash was enraged when Vicious returned to WCW at The Great American Bash and interfered in his match against Randy Savage. Vicious floored Nash with a big boot and power bomb, resulting in Savage's DQ. Besides, Nash loves wrestling against fellow big brawlers. He doesn't think there's a man in the world he can't overpower ... and he beat Sid many times in the WWF.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Anyone who can neutralize his size and power. Men such as Bret Hart and Sting. Also, Nash has yet to score a clean pinfall victory over Goldberg, and has been pinned by Goldberg on numerous occasions.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The power bomb. And Sid Vicious has a great one. Although it's Nash's favorite move, it's also the one that has beaten him the most times.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: The sleeper. Nash has a devastating clothesline, but what if he had the ability to choose between a very effective sleeper and the clothesline when he whipped an opponent off the ropes?

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Clothesline. Nash's arms are so huge and he puts so much power behind his clothesline that he could conceivably use it as a finisher.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker:

"The amazing thing about Kevin Nash is that he has become one of the biggest heroes in wrestling. The fans love him, his peers respect him, and he is one of the most talented big men the sport has ever seen. He's much more than a puncher and kicker."

Sting: "Kevin Nash is one of the most charismatic wrestlers the sport has ever seen, but don't be fooled by his smile. He's also one of the most ruthless and dangerous wrestlers in the world. Nash is just one of those guys who you never know what he's going to do from one moment to the next."

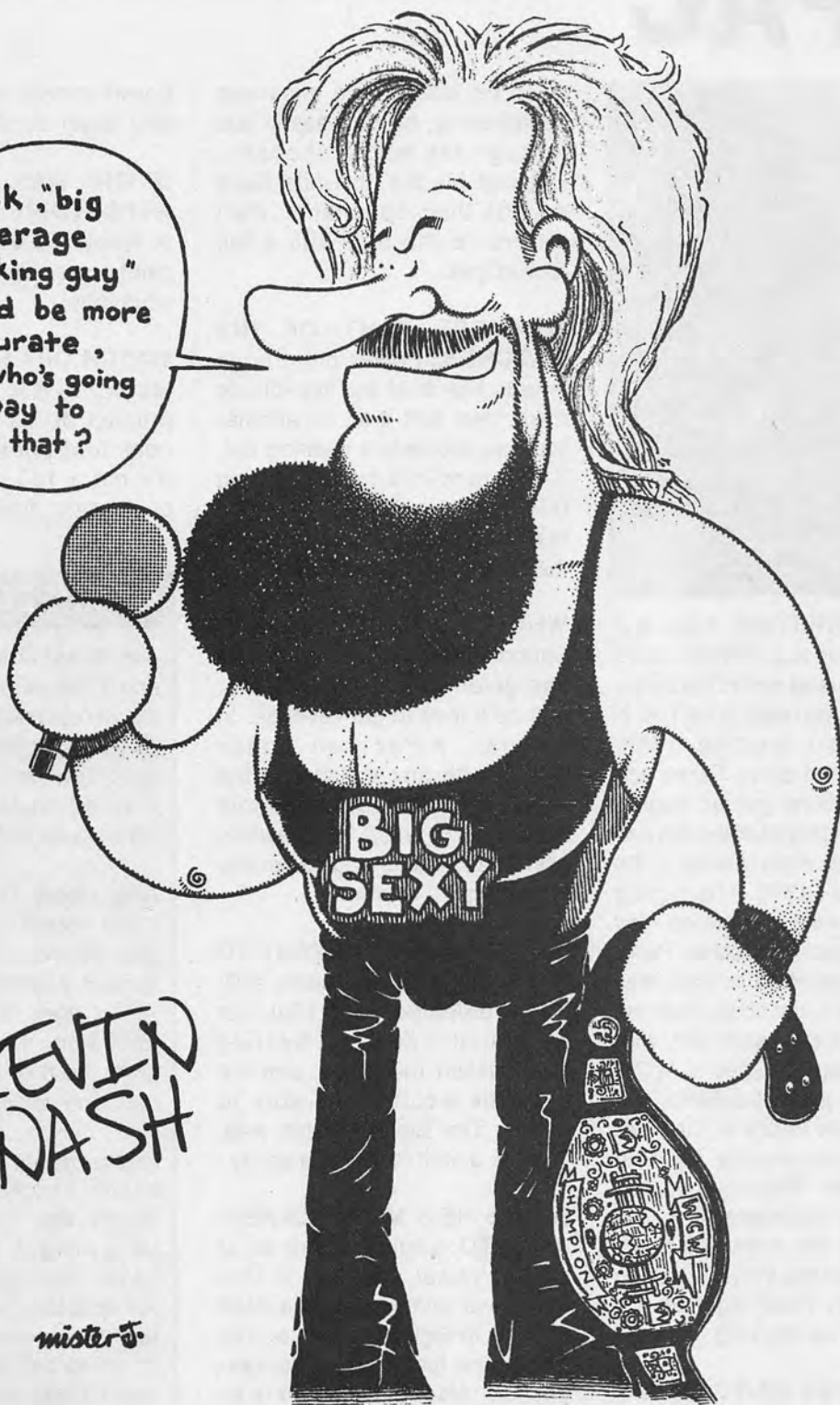
Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz:

"Big Sexy"? Maybe. I guess it all depends upon your tastes. I don't know what sex has to do with wrestling. But I'll give him this much: For a big man, he definitely knows his way around the ring."

o.k. "big
average
looking guy"
would be more
accurate,
but who's going
to pay to
see that?

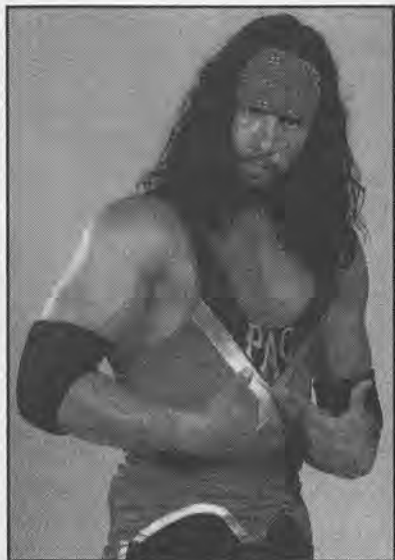
KEVIN
NASH

misterT



SCOUTING REPORT:

X-PAC



CAREER OVERVIEW: Kane and X-Pac? A tag team? Well, that's the latest unusual turn in the career of the man who used to be The 1-2-3 Kid. Began wrestling in Minnesota. Moved on to Texas and Japan, where he gained experience wrestling some of the top aerial stars in the world. Arrived in the WWF in April 1993. The turning point in his career came on May 17, 1993, when he shocked Razor Ramon (Scott Hall) in what was considered a major upset. Won the WWF World tag team title with Marty Jannetty. Jumped to WCW in mid-1996, joined the NWO, suffered a neck injury in October 1997, and was fired by WCW in March 1998. Returned to the WWF, joined DeGeneration X, and is one of its two remaining members. Has won two WWF European titles and one World tag team title with Kane since returning.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: X-Pac now wrestles mostly in tag team matches, and

given his outstanding anaerobic conditioning, he can easily last through the whole shabang. Catches his breath while Kane pounds their opponents, then returns to the ring with a full tank of gas.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Power merchants tend to kick in at the five-minute mark, then turn it on for another five minutes before wearing out. X-Pac runs into trouble during this period because he can't match power with anyone but the smallest cruiserweights.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Shane McMahon. The boss' son has given X-Pac a hard time, and he'd love to get revenge. In general, X-Pac can match moves with any wrestler in the WWF, and his fast hands and feet are too much for brawlers who don't have enough scientific knowledge to counter.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Big men with some skill. X-Pac defeated Scott Hall, but we couldn't see him beating Kevin Nash too often, and we know he wouldn't be able to handle The Big Show too well. There's a limit to X-Pac's ability.

HOLDS HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Leglocks. For all of his technical acumen, X-Pac has never come up with a solid counter to leglock finishers. Ken Shamrock has been a dangerous foe. Also, because he is so small and not very muscular, X-Pac is vulnerable to certain

power moves, especially those that target his oft-injured neck.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Strength. He can't power his way out of many situations.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... X-factor. X-Pac's finisher is a product of his lightning quickness and phenomenal ability. It's not a 100 percent finisher, but it works most of the time.

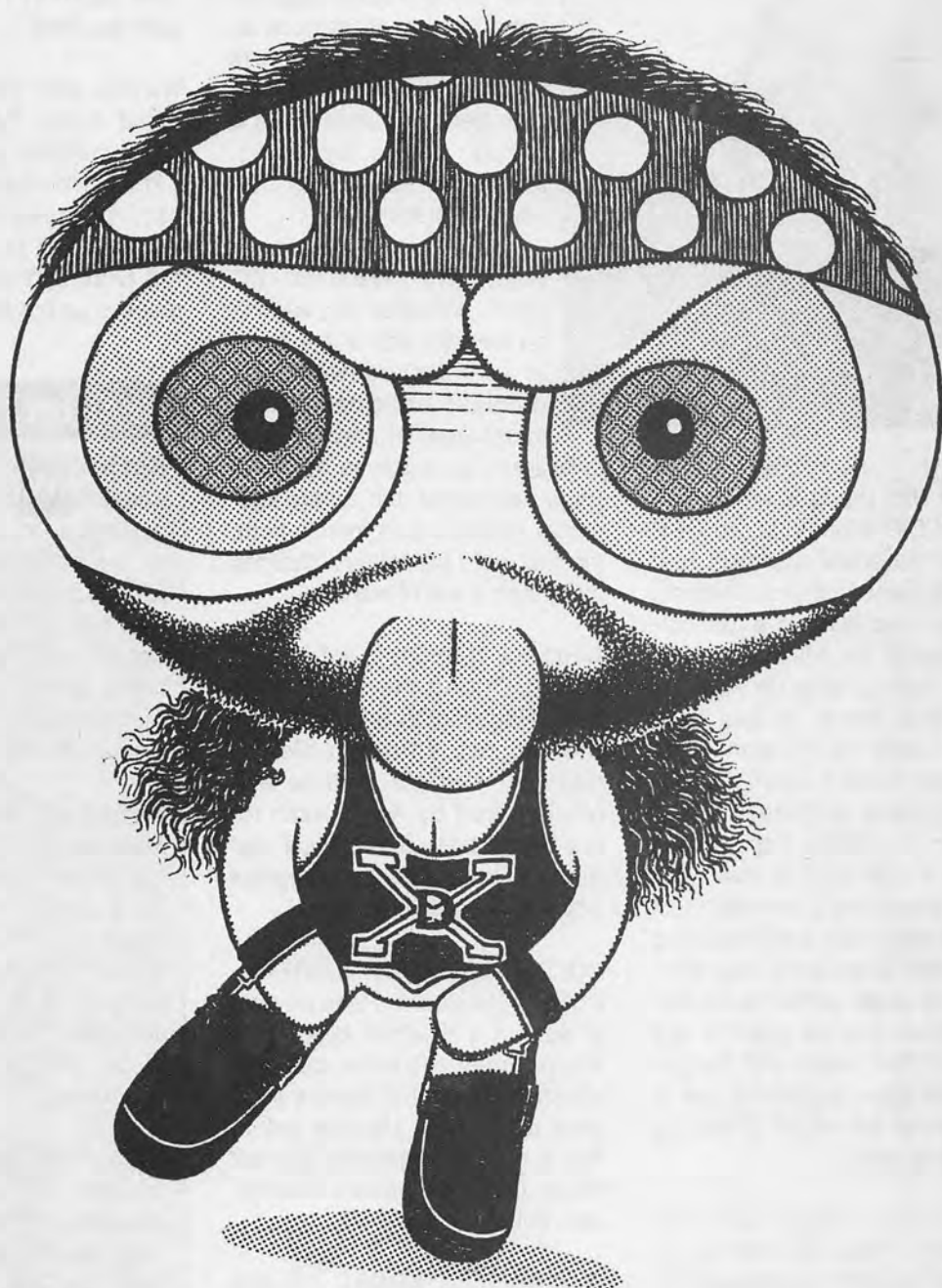
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Jim Ross: "The team of Kane and X-Pac is rather volatile, but it's an outstanding duo because they complement each other so well. You have X-Pac's lightning quickness and Kane's tremendous power."

Billy Gunn: "X-Pac's nothing more than a crossover from the martial arts world. The sport is wrestling, not kicking. All he does is that spinning heel kick. If he were half a man, he'd get in there and match me move-for-move."

Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "The thing that confuses me about X-Pac is that he's always changing his name. The other thing about X-Pac is that he is obviously a talented wrestler, but there's a limit to how far he can go. I don't think he'll ever be a world champion."

X-PAC



mister J.

"DIAMOND" DALLAS PAGE



CAREER OVERVIEW: Being popular with the fans never won him a WCW World title, so DDP decided to show his dark half when he beat Hollywood Hogan, Ric Flair, and Sting in a four-corners match for his first WCW World championship on April 11, 1999. Ever since, he has been booed loudly by the same fans who had made him one of the most popular wrestlers in the world. In the 1980s, Page started out as a manager in the AWA before becoming a wrestler. Got off to a slow start after becoming a wrestler. Eventually Lost Kimberly and every penny he owned. Only then did he get his act together. Now, along with Canyon and Bam Bam Bigelow, Page is one-third of the WCW World tag team champions.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Page is a fast starter who likes to catch his opponents by surprise, then bury them with his strength before they have a chance to get their games together.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Page has run into some trouble against marathon wrestlers such as Curt Hennig and Chris Benoit, and earlier this year was getting humbled on a regular basis by Sting, another wrestler with outstanding stamina.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Whether he's walking on the right side of the street or in the shadows, Page drools in anticipation of a match against anybody who talks trash as much as he does. Page has turned into a very egotistical wrestler, and there's nothing that gets his battery charged more than a war of words.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: During the first half of 1999, Page lost to Sting and Rick Steiner, two entirely different types of wrestlers. And he was overpowered by Kevin Nash for the World title. Basically, Page runs into trouble against wrestlers who are stronger than him.

HOLDS HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Leglocks. Page privately worried a bit about Bret Hart's sharpshooter and never found an effective way out of Sting's scorpion deathlock. He has yet to find a way to effectively counter these types of leglock submission holds.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Speed. We've said it once and we'll say it again.

Page has only average quickness and therefore has a hard time against ring speedsters such as Sting.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT... Diamond cutter. Page has won so many matches by hitting his signature finisher that you'd be hard-pressed to find many matches that he hasn't won with the Diamond cutter. He rarely messes up the move.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Kevin Nash: "DDP? What about him? He's got a lot of determination, sure, but it isn't getting him anywhere now. I'll tell you something, when I was with him, he was only out for himself, and I like it a lot better being against him. Avoid that Diamond cutter and you've got a good chance."

Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz: "Page proved in 1999 that he can't be trusted. He's another one of those wrestlers who's only out for himself, and if he doesn't get his way, he starts complaining and doing whatever he wants to do. He has become very obnoxious."

Bam Bam Bigelow: "I've teamed with a lot of great wrestlers in my life, but there's never been one with the grit, talent, and killer instinct of DDP. I know that when he tags in, he's going to give it his all."

"DIAMOND" DALLAS PAGE

...i tell ya'
bammer, it's
just you and
me against
the rest of
wcw ... uh-oh,
here they
all come ...

mister J.

SCOUTING REPORT: THE GODFATHER



CAREER OVERVIEW: Nobody more personifies the unique direction wrestling, and specifically the WWF, has taken over the past two years more than The Godfather. "Pimpin' ain't easy!" is his mantra, and the fans love to hear it. Formerly known as Kama Mustafa and Papa Shango, The Godfather tasted his first bit of WWF success when he stunned Goldust for the Intercontinental title on April 12, 1999, then successfully defended the belt against Goldust and Owen Hart before losing the title to Jeff Jarrett on May 25, 1999.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The part in which he offers his ladies to his opponent. If the opponent accepts the offer, The Godfather wins the match without breaking a sweat. If the opponent declines the offer, the bell rings and The Godfather brawls like crazy for a

few minutes. If he doesn't finish off his opponent early, he's in trouble.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Anything after five minutes, when he's worn down from brawling. The Godfather doesn't have much of a scientific repertoire. He isn't a strong counterwrestler.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Brawlers such as Big Bossman and Midian. He and Jerry

Lawler, who has tremendous admiration for The Godfather, have handled them in match after match. He also has a winning record against Goldust.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Jeff Jarrett and other multi-dimensional wrestlers who stretch his limited repertoire to the breaking point. The Godfather has simply never found a way to beat Jarrett cleanly. Besides, with Debra by his side, why would Jarrett take Godfather's ladies?

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The figure-four leglock. The Godfather can't come up with a counter to Jarrett's favorite finisher. He is likely to submit and call it a night.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Some kind of scientific repertoire. Maybe a sharp

tongue and lots of strength can get him by on the streets of New York City, but The Godfather needs a little more than that in the ring.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Death Valley driver. He calls it the pimp drop. The Godfather drapes his opponent across his shoulders and drives him into the mat. It's an effective move, but setting it up is difficult.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

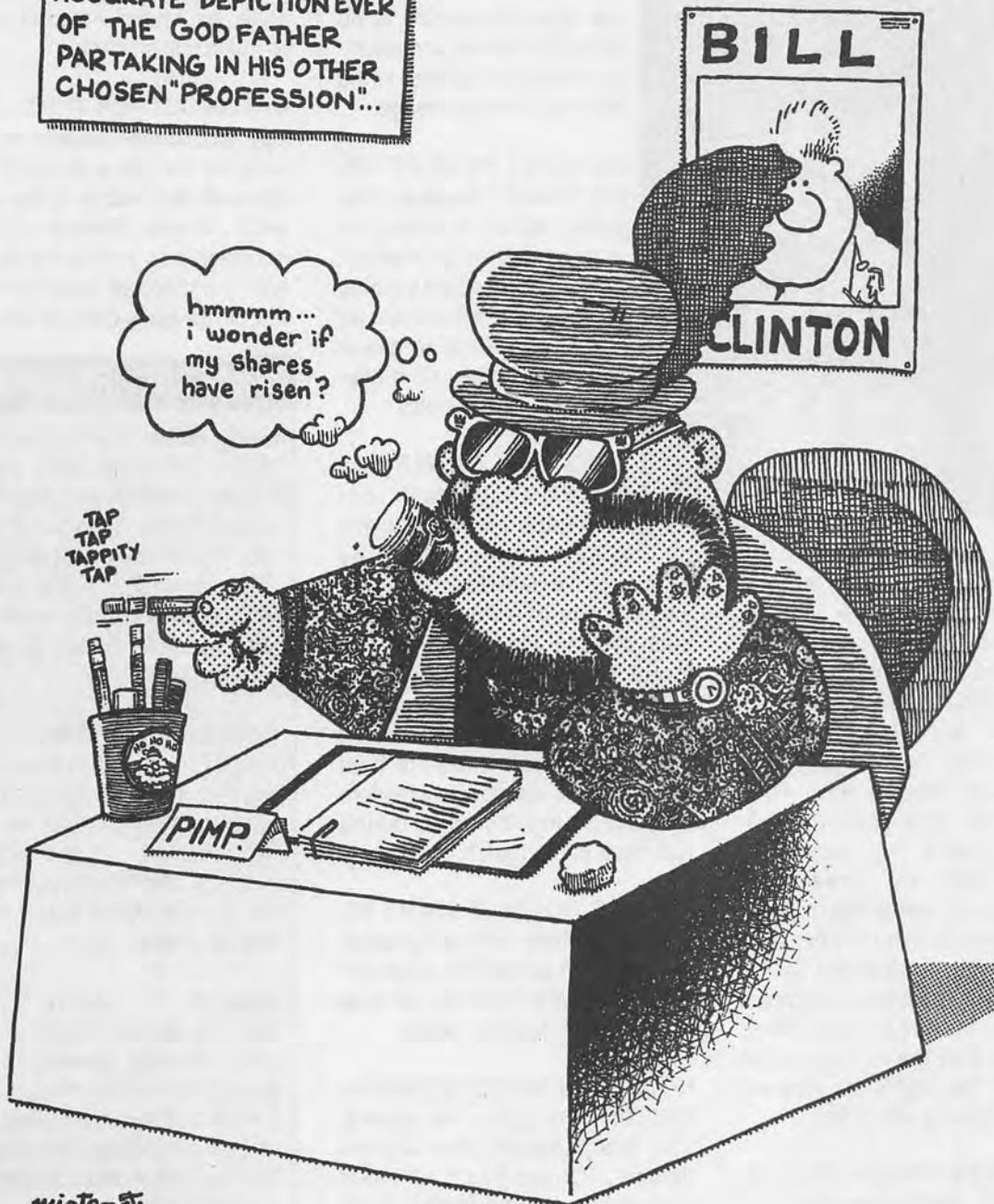
Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "I hate to admit it, but I think The Godfather is funny. I'm not sure kids should be watching when The Godfather is wrestling, and I dispute his claim that pimpin' ain't easy, but he is a colorful figure who has won the Intercontinental title. Give him credit for that. Kama Mustafa and Papa Shango never grabbed my attention. The Godfather has."

Jeff Jarrett: "He's a joke. First of all, not one of his so-called ladies could hold a candle to Debra. Second of all, he's a big brawler who doesn't know his way around the ring the way I do."

Jerry Lawler: "He's great! The man has style, class, and lots of beautiful women. I wish I had his life! He says pimpin' ain't easy, but I'd like to try it for a couple of days just to see how I'd do."

THE GODFATHER

POSSIBLY THE LEAST
ACCURATE DEPICTION EVER
OF THE GODFATHER
PARTAKING IN HIS OTHER
CHOSEN "PROFESSION"...



SCOUTING REPORT:

RANDY SAVAGE



CAREER OVERVIEW: Although Savage made his pro debut in 1973, he didn't make a major impact until 1985, when he arrived in the WWF and took Elizabeth (his future wife) as his manager. Won the Intercontinental title, two WWF World titles, and feuded with Rick Steamboat and Hulk Hogan, among others. He moved to WCW in 1995, won three World titles, and returned to the ring earlier this year looking crazier than ever. Now accompanied by his trio of deadly beauties, Gorgeous George, Madusa, and Miss Madness, Savage is living up to his name. His sights are now set on Kevin Nash's World title.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: When his entourage interferes ... which could be any

time. Savage doesn't try to do much winning on his own anymore. He lacks the strength to finish off an opponent early and might not have the stamina to go 20 to 25 minutes consistently, so he's at his best in the eight-to-12-minute range.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Because the ladies interfere in most of his matches, Savage doesn't have to worry about wearing down. There will always be somebody there to assist him. Usually they do it after about 13 or 14 minutes.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Kevin Nash, but preferably with Sid Vicious by his side. Interference by Vicious prevented Nash from pinning Savage in what would have been a clean title defense at The Great American Bash. Savage hates Nash, especially after "Big Sexy" filled his limousine with raw sewage. Savage does his best work against big power wrestlers who aren't interested in taking him deep into a match.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Scientific and aerial wrestlers who can dazzle him, keep him off-balance, and finish him off early or late with an array of moves.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The figure-four leglock. The sharpshooter. Any leglock finisher. Savage has bad knees and must succumb fairly quickly to leglock submission holds.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Just a little patience. If Savage would simply learn to take a step backward once in a while, his knees wouldn't endure so much punishment.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Top-rope elbowdrop. Savage loves to come off the top and land the big elbow to the middle of his opponents' chests. Referee Charles Robinson was sent to the hospital with a collapsed lung following one of Savage's elbowdrops.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Kevin Nash: "Randy Savage? You're asking me about Randy Savage? Whaddya wanna know about Randy Savage? That I filled his limousine with sewage? That he had to bring in Sid Vicious to do his dirty work? I'll tell you about Randy Savage: He's pathetic."

Contributing Writer Liz Hunter: "It's sad to see what has become of Savage. Sad, but not surprising. He has always had a backward way of looking at things, and let's face it—people don't become less crazy; they become crazier."

Madusa: "The fact is, Randy has always been one of the most dominant players in the sport. I don't align myself with just anyone, you know. He's better than ever, especially since he has the best woman wrestler of all-time by his side."

RANDY SAVAGE & GORGEOUS GEORGE



SCOUTING REPORT:

STEVE AUSTIN



CAREER OVERVIEW: The Steve Austin who was going nowhere in the early-1990s is now going everywhere ... in the ring, on TV, around the world, and on just about every T-shirt you'll see at a WWF card. Austin was a successful WCW World tag team champion in 1993 with Brian Pillman, but his move to the WWF was the best move he ever made. He has won the WWF World heavyweight title at the last two WrestleManias and is not only the most popular wrestler in the world, but one of the greatest as well.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: About 16 to 22 minutes. After all, he won his third WWF World title at WrestleMania XV by pinning The Rock at 16:50. At WrestleMania XIV, he beat Shawn Michaels for his first WWF

World title via pinfall in the 21st minute. Austin is a fast starter with outstanding stamina.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 14 to 16 minutes. We've narrowed this window from last year, but only by two minutes. This should tell you how rarely Austin loses. But he ran into trouble against The Rock around this time at WrestleMania XV and has struggled during a similar time frame against The Undertaker.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: In general, he loves facing brawlers such as Kane, The Undertaker, and Mankind, who aren't outstanding counterwrestlers. In particular, he'd love to get his hands on Shane McMahon, who cost him the World title at Over the Edge.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: All-around scientific wrestlers who can brawl and go to the air. Sure, there aren't many of them in the WWF, but Austin has struggled at times against The Rock and had trouble last year against Michaels. Austin can wrestle scientifically, but he isn't an expert. Throw something new at him and he might run into trouble.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Seems like the only way Austin gets beaten these days is when the McMahons and The Corporate Ministry interfere.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A little humility. There's nothing wrong with being confident. It's just that Austin

thinks he can't be beaten. He thinks he's invulnerable. Austin should be a little more careful. He has a lot of enemies out there.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Stone-Cold stunner. Austin used his stunner to beat The Rock at WrestleMania XV and has used it to finish off just about every opponent he has beaten over the past two years.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Pat Patterson: "Vince McMahon had me convinced for a long time that Steve Austin was bad for the WWF. But now I realize Austin is a man who has a lot of guts and doesn't try to play games with anyone the way Vince and Shane do. He's a great ambassador for the WWF."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "Austin has got more upstairs than most people think. While the fans wanted to see Austin cement his friendship with Vince, 'The Rattlesnake' never committed, never fully trusted McMahon. When Vince revealed himself as that 'Greater Power,' the only one that wasn't surprised at all was 'Stone-Cold.'"

WWF Commissioner Shawn Michaels: "I wish I was still wrestling, because if I were, Steve Austin and I would be headlining every major card in the world. There would be nothing like Austin vs. Michaels, the two greatest wrestlers of the decade."

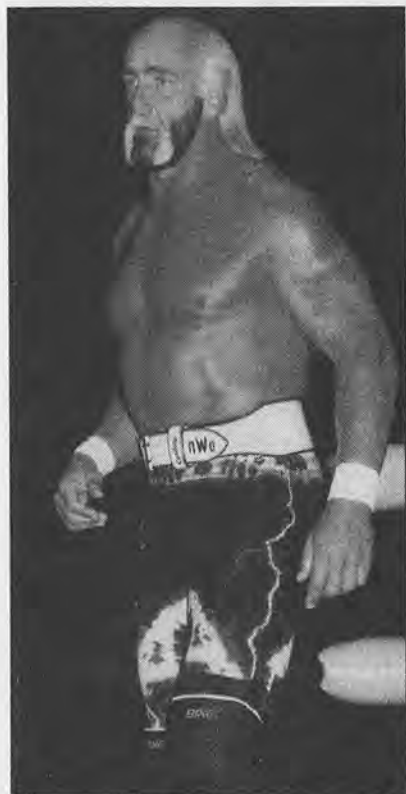
STEVE
AUSTIN

HEY UNDERTAKER!
YOUR YARD
COULD DO WITH
SOME WORK !!



SCOUTING REPORT:

HOLLYWOOD HOGAN



CAREER OVERVIEW: He's gone from bad guy to best guy to worst guy to who-knows-what-kind-of-guy. Along the way, he has become the most recognized face in wrestling history. A winner of five WWF World titles and five WCW World titles, he's also an international movie and television celebrity. And yet, after watching his 21-year career unfold before our very eyes, we still have to wonder, "Who is this guy?"

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Because of his strength and limited stamina, Hogan has always been at his best at around 10 minutes. A notorious slow starter, Hogan has the ability to kick in with an extra quick burst of energy just when things look bleakest.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The Flair-Hogan match at Uncensored '99 tells the story: Hogan covered Flair for pin attempts with 7:40 and 11 minutes gone in the match; Flair nailed Hogan with a tire iron and scored the pin at 14:20. He runs into big trouble after the first 13 or 14 minutes. He simply runs out of gas and doesn't have a scientific repertoire to rely upon.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Dallas Page. Over the past couple of years, Hollywood has done surprisingly well against the man from the Jersey shore. A match with Page is always a test for Hogan, but one that he can pass more often than not.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Any scientific wrestler with smarts and a little bit of courage. Hogan has really had his hands full with Ric Flair recently. We also can't see Hogan faring well against a younger, more powerful wrestler such as Bill Goldberg if they ever have another match.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Figure-four leglock. Boston crab. Scorpion deathlock. Any hold that applies pressure on Hogan's oft-injured back muscles. He simply can't stand the pain anymore.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Defensive skills. Hogan's been wrestling for 21 years, but he never really learned the science of reversing holds. As his body succumbs to injuries more and more, he must learn to defend

himself if he is to remain on the top of the heap.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Superman comeback. As Hogan began hearing the crowd chant his name once again, the powers of "Hulkamania" slowly started to emerge in the black-clad Hollywood. When he was dressed in the red and yellow, a Superman comeback was virtually guaranteed once per match. Now the comebacks have returned, making Hogan as dangerous as ever.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Ric Flair: "It's sad to see that a wrestling icon such as Hollywood Hogan has become such a big joke. The days when he could just walk into the ring and win are over. Now he's got to revert to 'Hulkamania' in order to psych himself up for a match? He's not half the wrestler I am."

Publisher Stu Saks: "I'm not really sure what I think about Hogan anymore. He is by far the biggest name that this sport has ever seen, but when he turned his back on the fans in '96, he lost all my respect. Recapturing that is going to take more than cupping his hand to his ear."

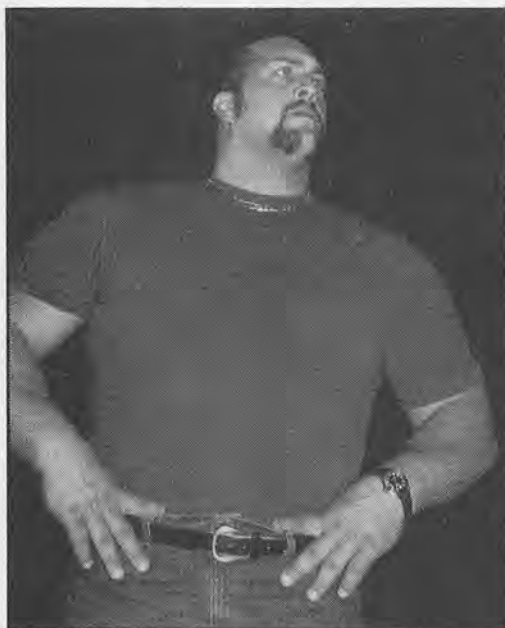
Eric Bischoff: "My man Hollywood always has been and always will be one of the greatest ever. He's been around this sport for a long time, but he's still winning world championships. That about says it all, because that's all I have to say."



mister d.
HOLLYWOOD
HOGAN

SCOUTING REPORT:

THE BIG SHOW



CAREER OVERVIEW: At 7'4", 430 pounds, Paul Wight, a.k.a. The Big Show, looked like wrestling's next unstoppable force when he won the WCW World title as a rookie in 1996. By early-1999, Wight had left WCW and joined the WWF, where he is now known as The Big Show. He literally burst into the WWF, tearing through the ring canvas at the St. Valentine's Day Massacre pay-per-view and throwing Steve Austin through a steel cage. Since then, he has pulled off incredible feats of strength, such as choke-slaming The Undertaker through the ring and pulling the entire Titan Tron to the floor.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Five to eight minutes. He is exceptionally strong, but because he lacks speed, he has a hard time ending matches against elite competition quickly. Instead,

he takes his time beating top-level opponents into submission.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Anything after 12 minutes. Like most big men, The Big Show doesn't have a great deal of stamina and quickly wears down. Because he expends so much energy overpowering his opponents during the first 10 minutes, he's usually in big trouble if he doesn't put his opponents away fairly early.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: He loves facing off against big men such as Big Bossman and The Undertaker, and he has pretty much dominated his matches against Billy Gunn. Rare is the wrestler who can overpower or outbrawl him.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: He beat Ric Flair, one of the greatest scientific wrestlers of all-time, for the WCW World title, then lost the title to Hollywood Hogan, a brawler. He has been destroyed by Sting, beaten big man Kevin Nash, lost to Lex Luger, and done well against mid-level brawlers in the WWF. But we just can't see him doing very well against strong, talented wrestlers such as Austin or The Rock.

HOLDS HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Leglock finishers. In WCW, he fell prey to Sting's scorpion numerous times.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Some speed. Of course, at his height and weight, he probably isn't going to get much faster. He certainly isn't going to get any shorter.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Choke-slam. One of the most lethal and crippling finishing maneuvers in history. When Wight wraps his huge hands around an opponent's neck, the end of the match is near.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Billy Gunn: "All he has is size and strength, well, a lot of size and a lot of strength. Yeah, I've had my hands full against him, but make me a hundred pounds heavier and I'd kick his butt every time. Wrestling The Big Show is like wrestling a dump truck."

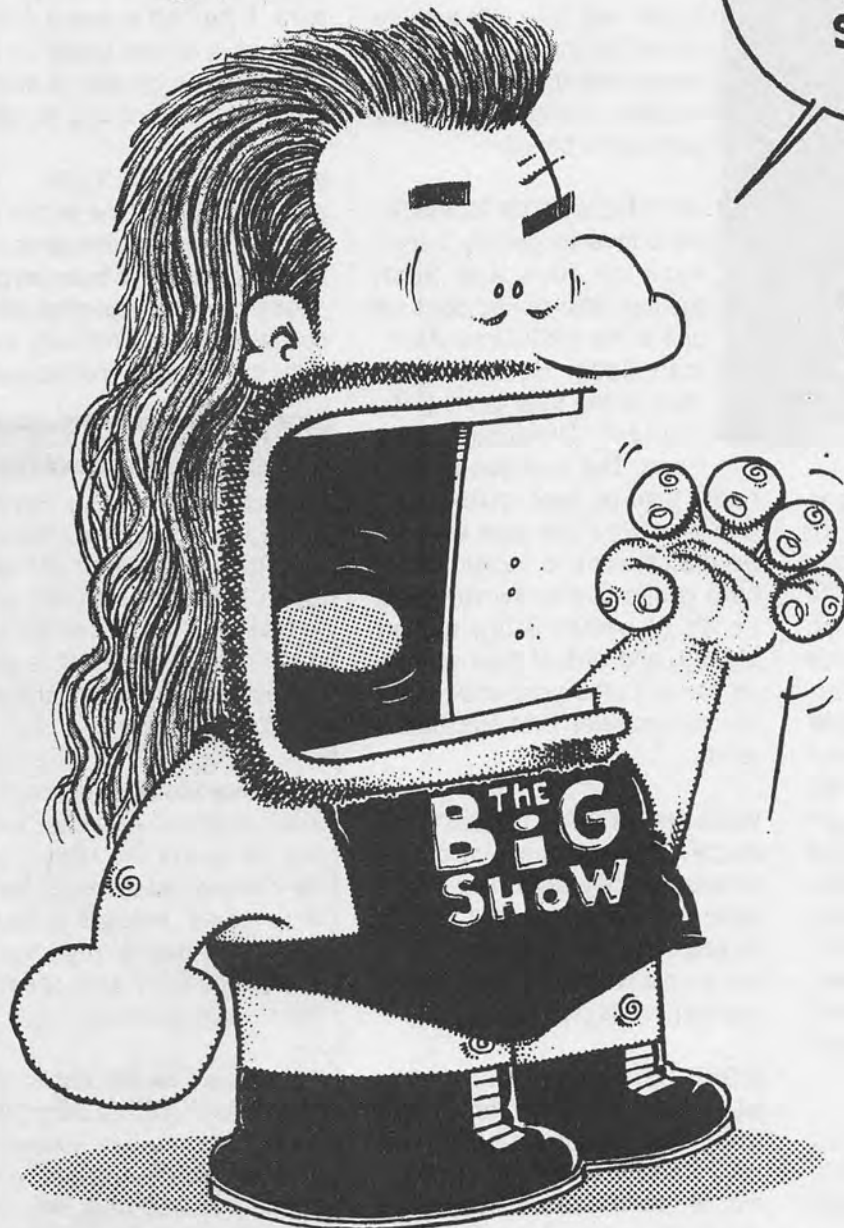
Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz: "I've never gone for the big, lunky wrestlers who rely entirely on their size, but I do think that leaving WCW was the best thing that ever happened to Wight. He seems like a better fit in the WWF."

Ken Shamrock: "I don't get impressed by too many people, but you have to be impressed by The Big Show's size and killer instinct. He's definitely an imposing competitor and one guy that I'm glad to have in The Union."

THE BIG
SHOW

NOT ONLY
A BIG SHOW,
A **GIANT**
SHOW...

got that
mister
bischoff?



mister J.

SCOUTING REPORT:

STING



CAREER OVERVIEW: Sting is one of the greatest stars in wrestling history. Skill, charisma, style, persona, and an ability to get his point across, even when he's not speaking, have made Sting a legitimate superstar. Beat Ric Flair for his first WCW World title on July 7, 1990, and has won the belt five more times since then, most recently on April 26, 1999, a title reign that lasted only a few hours. He has held all four major WCW titles: World, U.S., World tag team, and TV. He has been a member of two of WCW's most important cliques: The Four Horsemen and the NWO.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 15 to 25 minutes. Sting is in tremendous anaerobic condition and has such a wide repertoire of moves that he can last deep into a match at peak condition.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Five to 10 minutes. Power wrestlers have a huge edge over ability-oriented wrestlers in this time frame, and Sting, although he is very strong, cannot match power with the super heavyweights. Sting must simply survive this period.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: He'd love to get his hands back on Rick and Scott Steiner, who sicked dogs on him at the 1999 Great American Bash. He has spent most of the year beating Ric Flair and "Diamond" Dallas Page. But somebody he'd

really love to beat is Goldberg (the man who last year we said he didn't want to face). Goldberg is one of the few wrestlers in WCW whom Sting hasn't pinned, and one of their matches earlier in the year ended in a no-contest after Bret Hart interfered.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: One-dimensional power wrestlers. They bore him. When Sting gets bored, he can't wrestle at peak effectiveness. He needs opponents who retain his interest and inspire his creativity.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Considering the injuries Sting has sustained throughout his career, Goldberg's jackhammer is the one move Sting must avoid. We just can't imagine Sting getting up from Goldberg's spear-jackhammer combination. He hasn't done it yet.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A power finisher. He doesn't have one. Never has. It's the one limitation in Sting's repertoire. If he had a power finisher, such as a power bomb or jackhammer, he'd be able to finish off an opponent in any way he chose.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Scorpion deathlock. One of the most effective leglock submission holds ever created. Sting's been using it for 14 years, and his opponents still can't counter it too well. That's why it's one of the most effective finishers ever.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Rick Steiner: "Hey, I thought Sting liked dogs! I never thought they'd try to tear him into little pieces! What, the man can't take a little joke? Apparently he just isn't an animal lover. What am I supposed to do about that, keep my dogs at home?"

Publisher Stu Saks: "I wish that more wrestlers were like Sting. I'm not saying he's perfect, but he has avoided the latest trend in wrestling, which is to curse and make sexual remarks at every opportunity. He's one athlete the fans can trust."

"Diamond" Dallas Page: "I'm sick of hearing about Sting. He's treated like the boy wonder of this federation, like he can do no wrong. I'm tired of it. He's not any better than anyone else in WCW, so I don't know where he gets off being high and mighty."

STING

... who is this bart
simpson looking
freak, with his
picture next to
my name ...



mister J.

The Simpsons—Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

WRESTLING COLLECTORS!

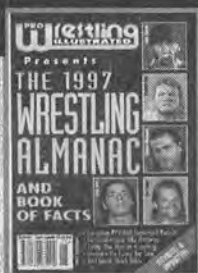
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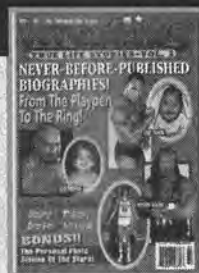
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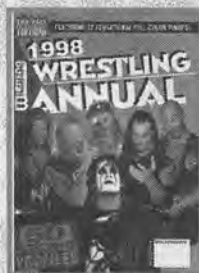
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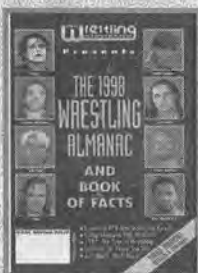
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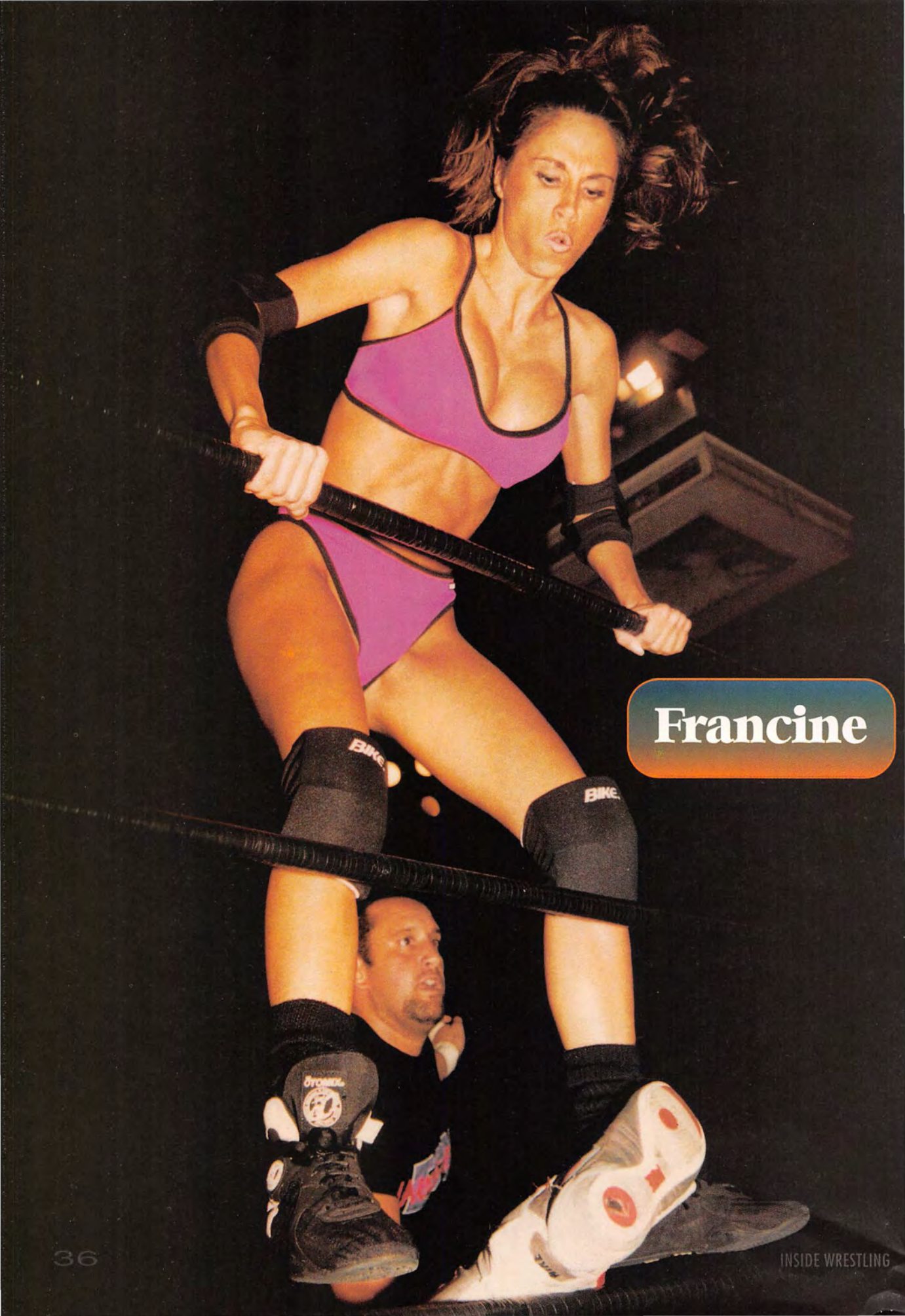
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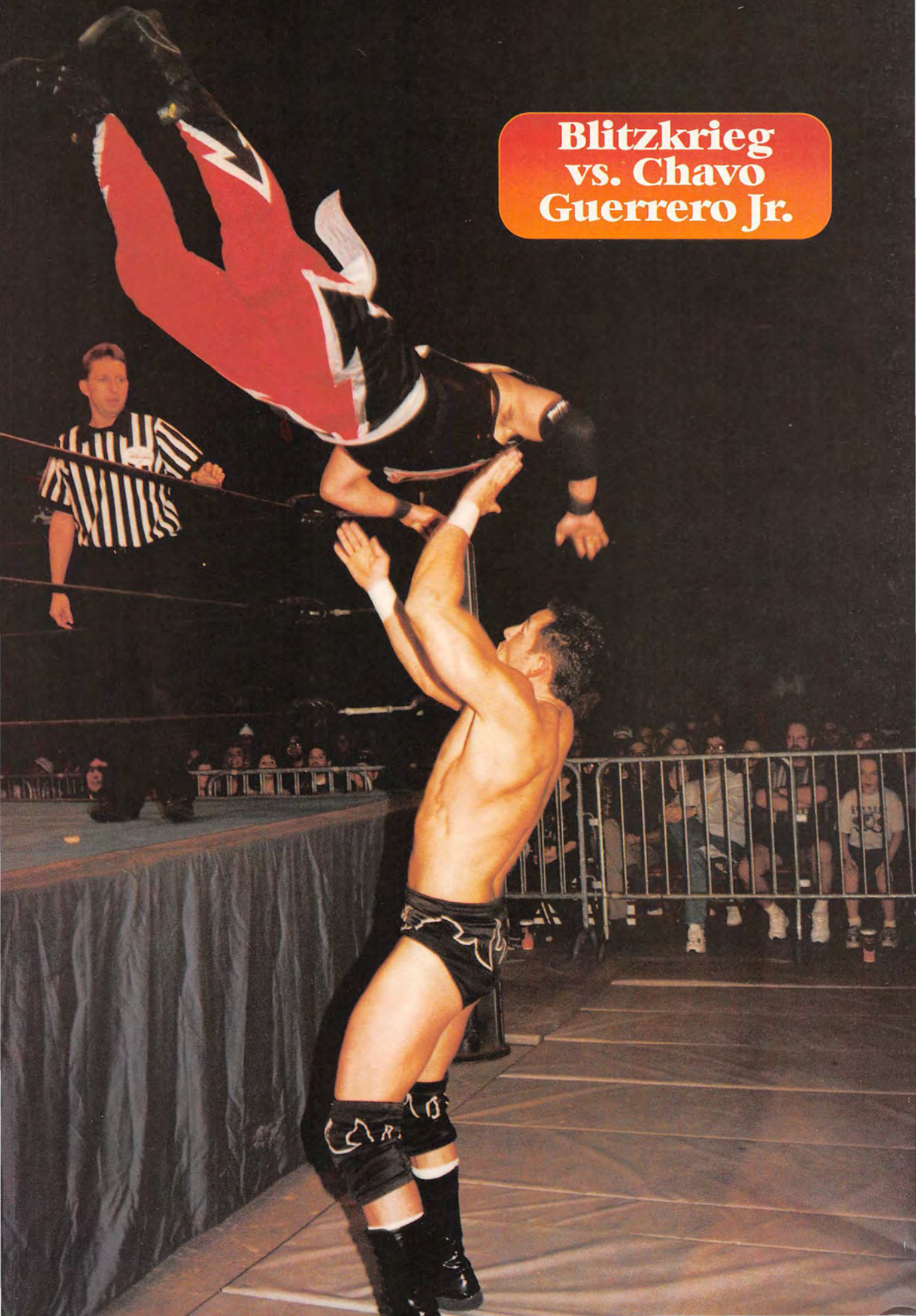


Francine

A full-length photograph of Ric Flair standing on a stage. He is wearing a white long-sleeved button-down shirt, tucked into khaki-colored pleated trousers, secured with a brown leather belt featuring a large, ornate silver buckle. He has short, light-colored hair and is looking off to the side with a slight smile. The background is dark, and in the lower foreground, the silhouettes of audience members are visible behind a railing. One person on the right is wearing a white t-shirt with the words "EVENT STAFF" printed on the back.

Ric Flair

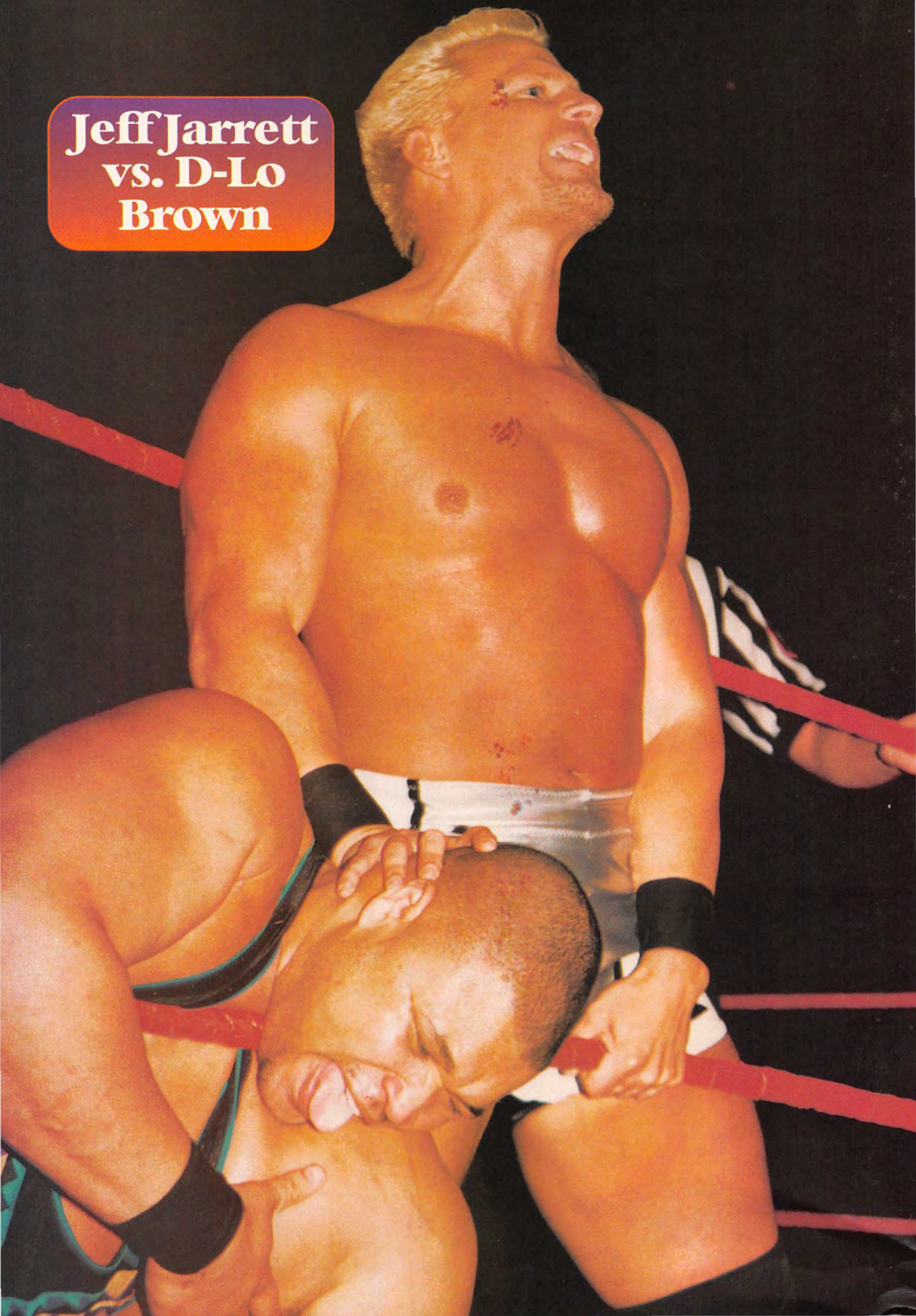
**Blitzkrieg
vs. Chavo
Guerrero Jr.**



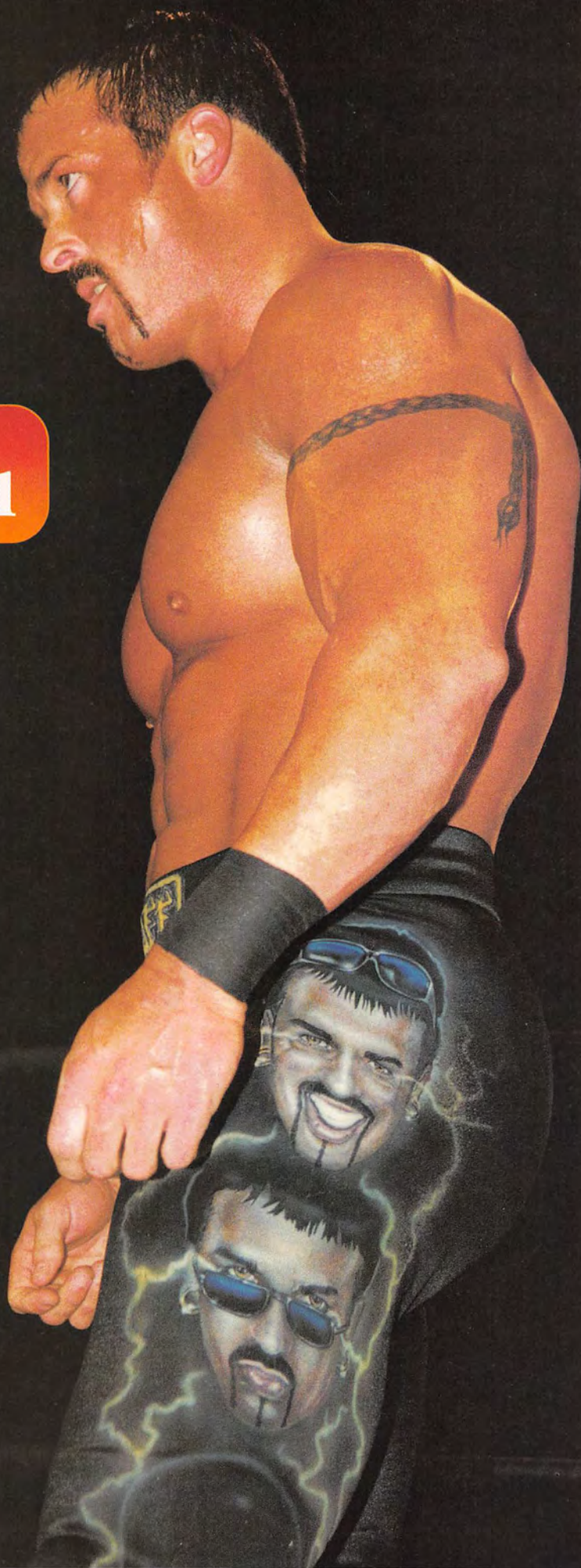
The Pit Bulls



**Jeff Jarrett
vs. D-Lo
Brown**



**Buff
Bagwell**



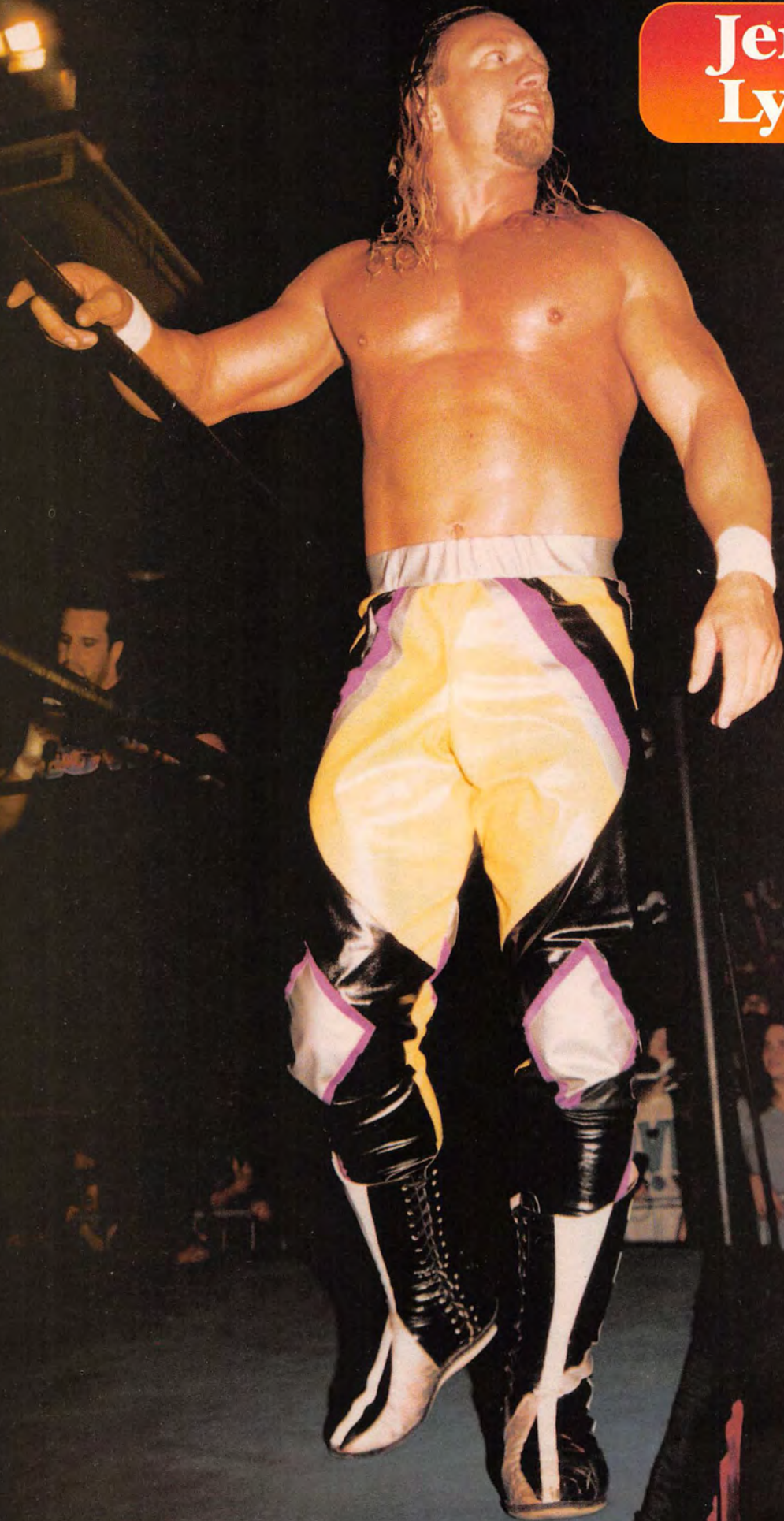
**Super Crazy
vs. Taka
Michinoku**



**Jacquelyn
& Val Venis**



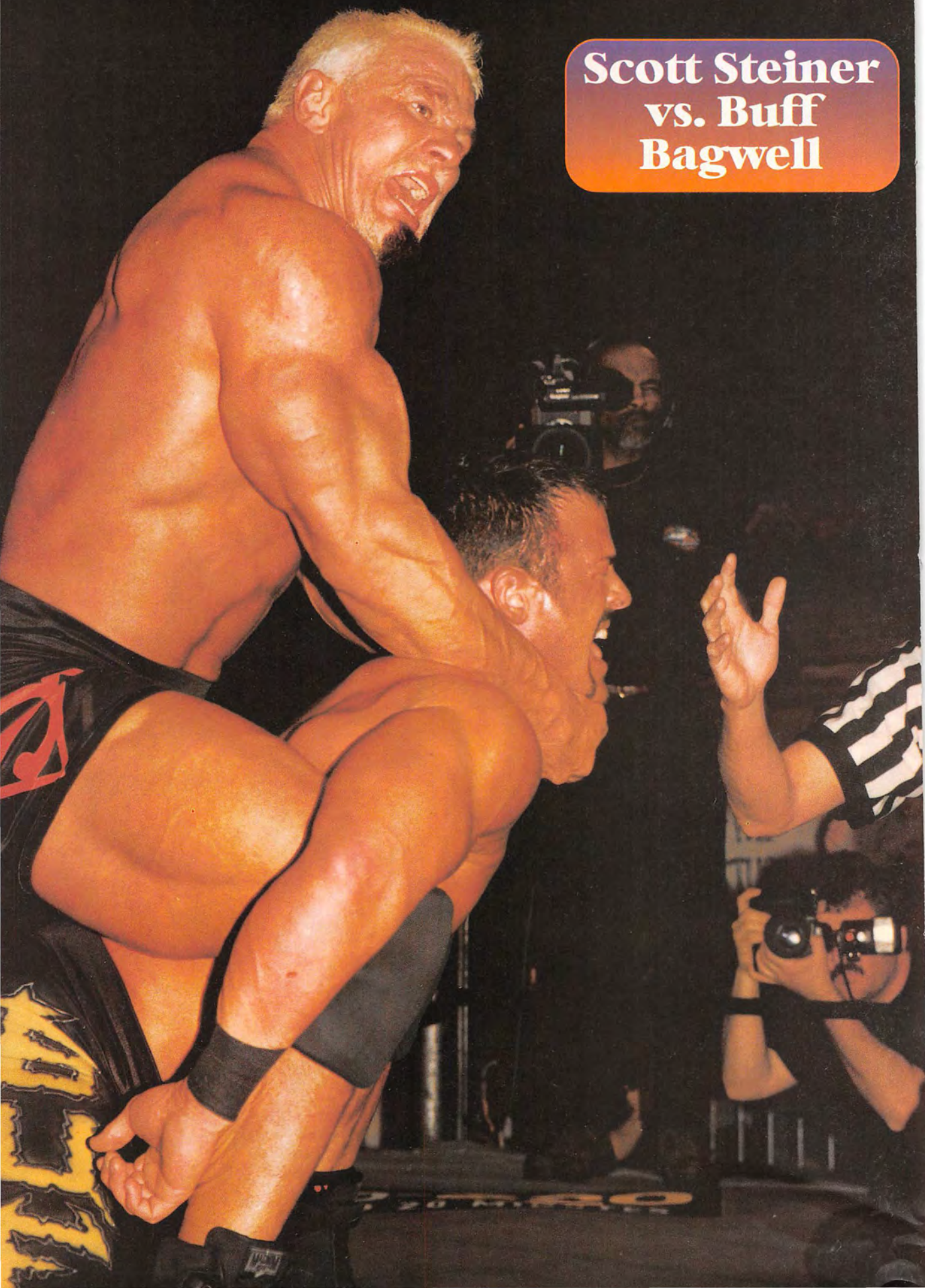
**Jerry
Lynn**

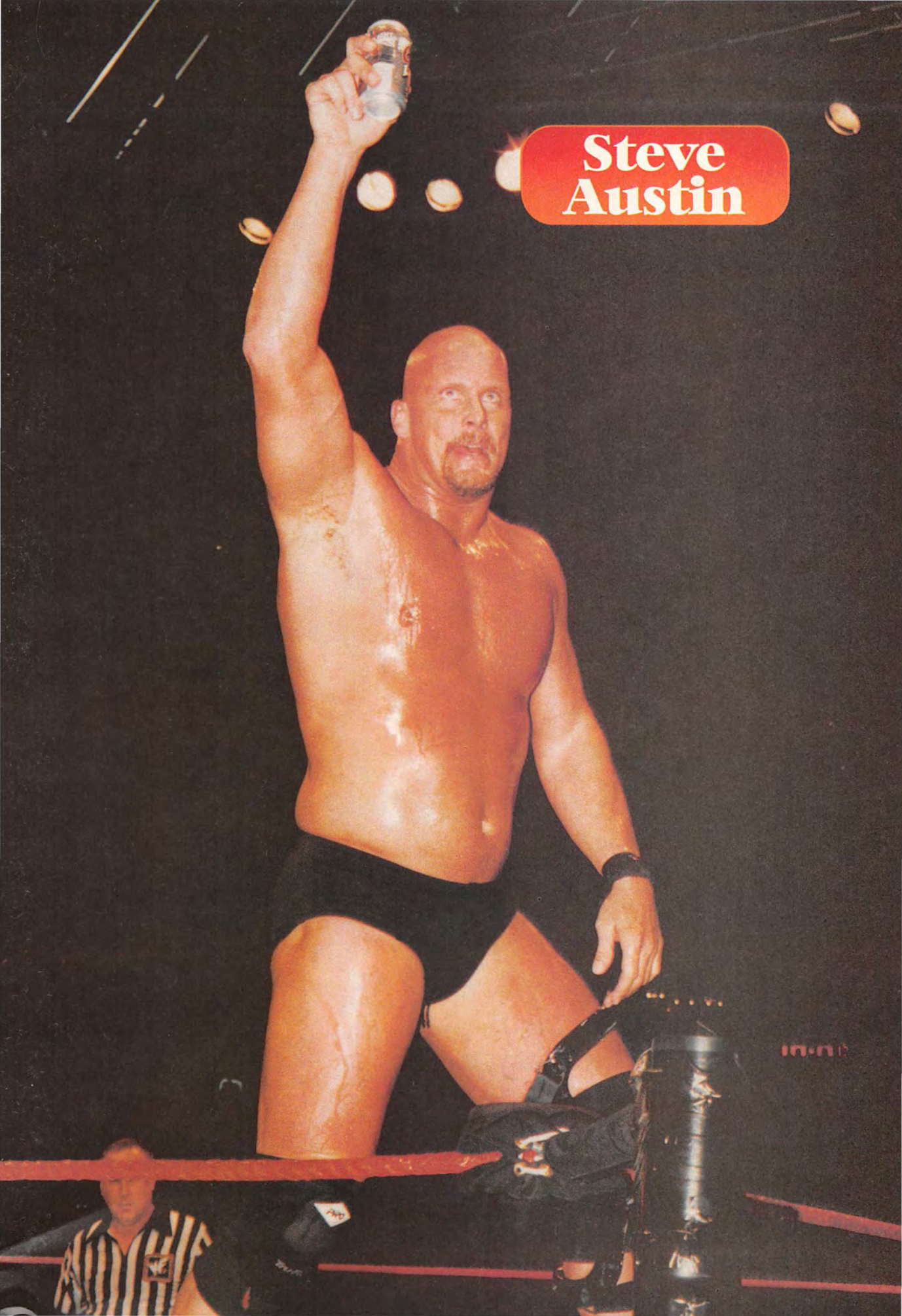


**B.A. Billy
Gunn vs.
Road Dogg**



**Scott Steiner
vs. Buff
Bagwell**



A full-page photograph of professional wrestler Steve Austin. He is shirtless, muscular, and has a goatee. He is standing in a wrestling ring, holding a silver can in his right hand, which is raised high above his head. He is wearing black wrestling trunks. The background is dark with several bright spotlights. In the bottom left corner, a referee in a black and white striped shirt is partially visible. In the bottom right corner, there is a small, faint logo that reads "in-nc".

**Steve
Austin**

**Kevin
Nash**



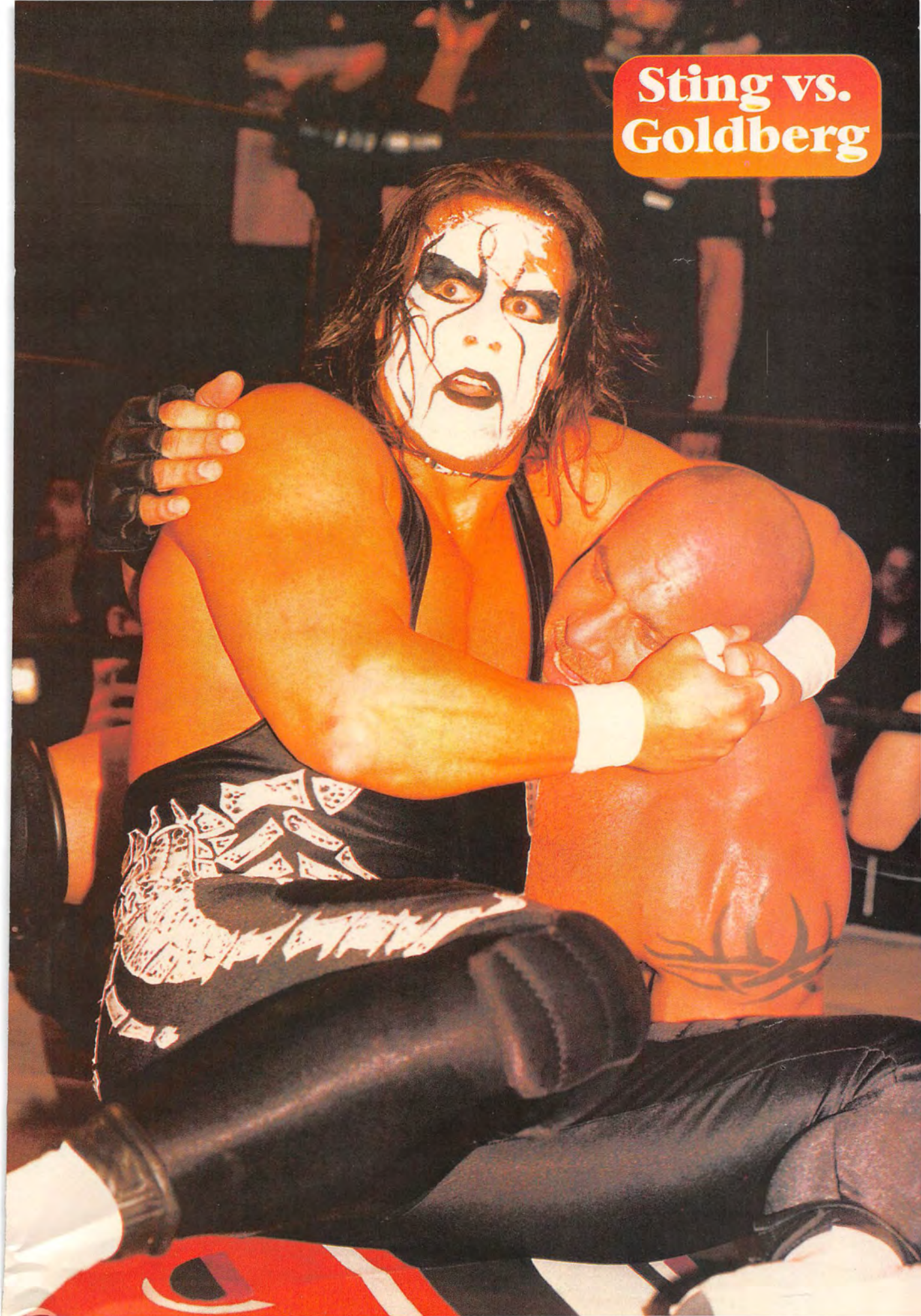
**Taz vs.
Chris
Candido**



Brian Knobs



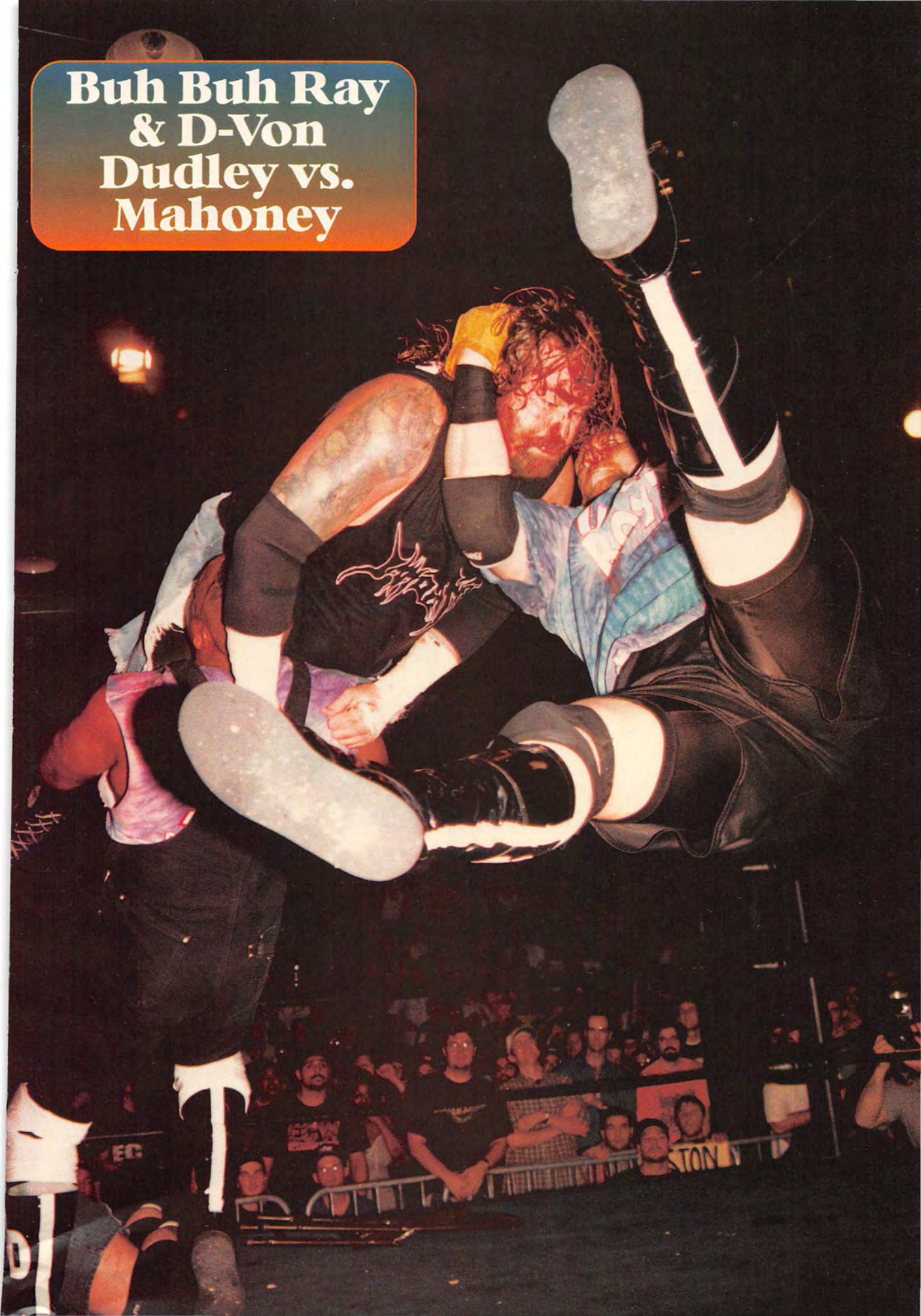
**Sting vs.
Goldberg**



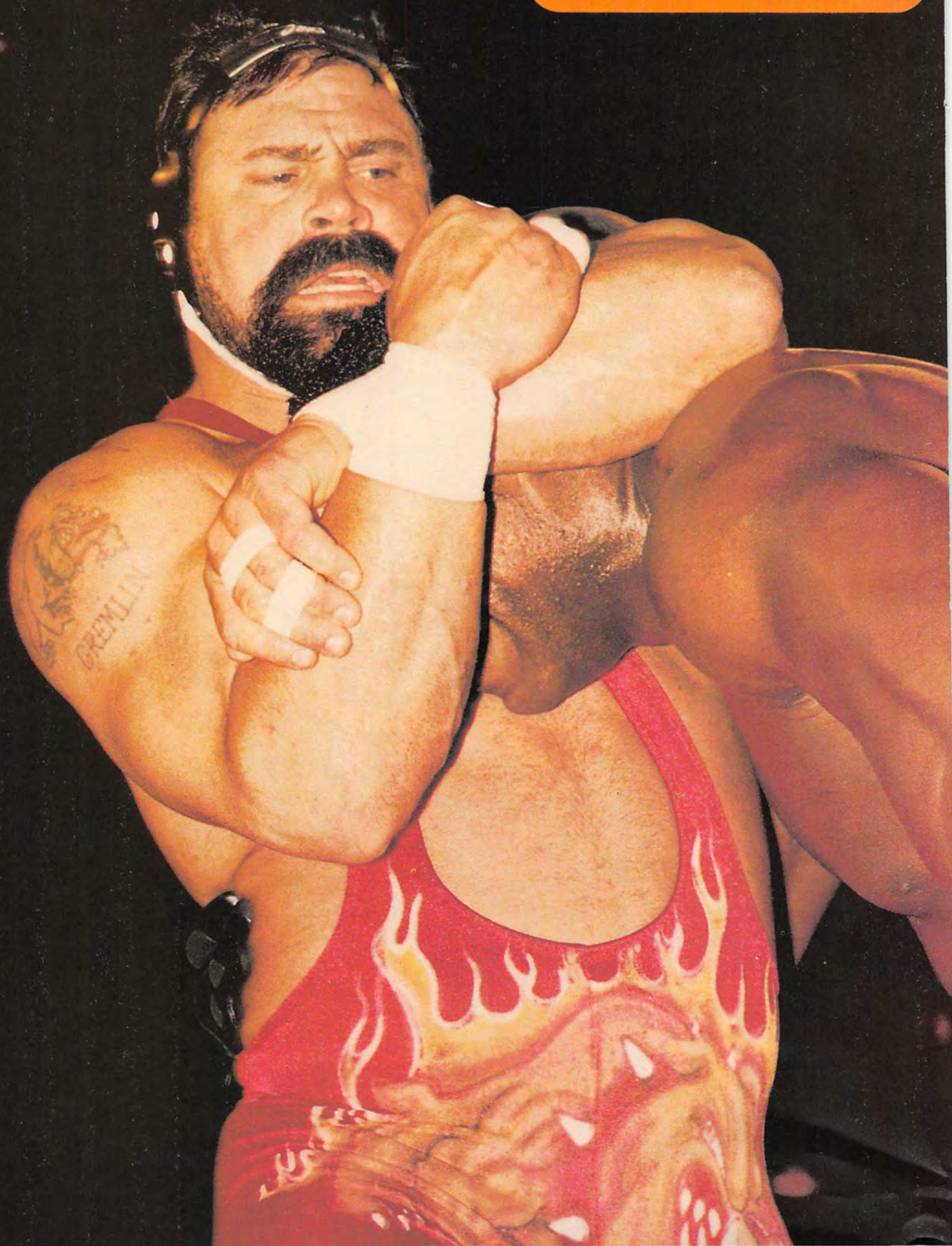
Gangrel



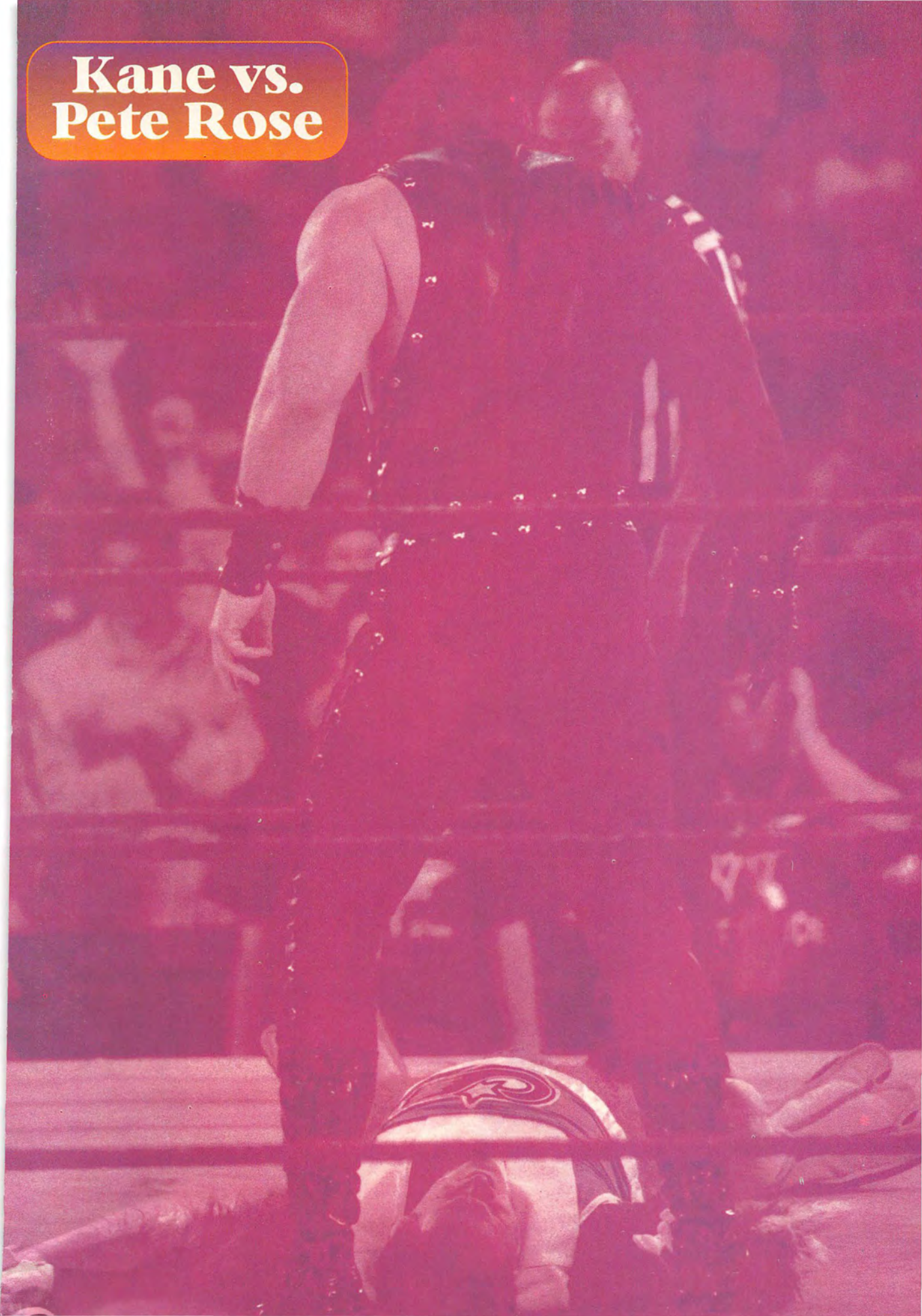
**Buh Buh Ray
& D-Von
Dudley vs.
Mahoney**

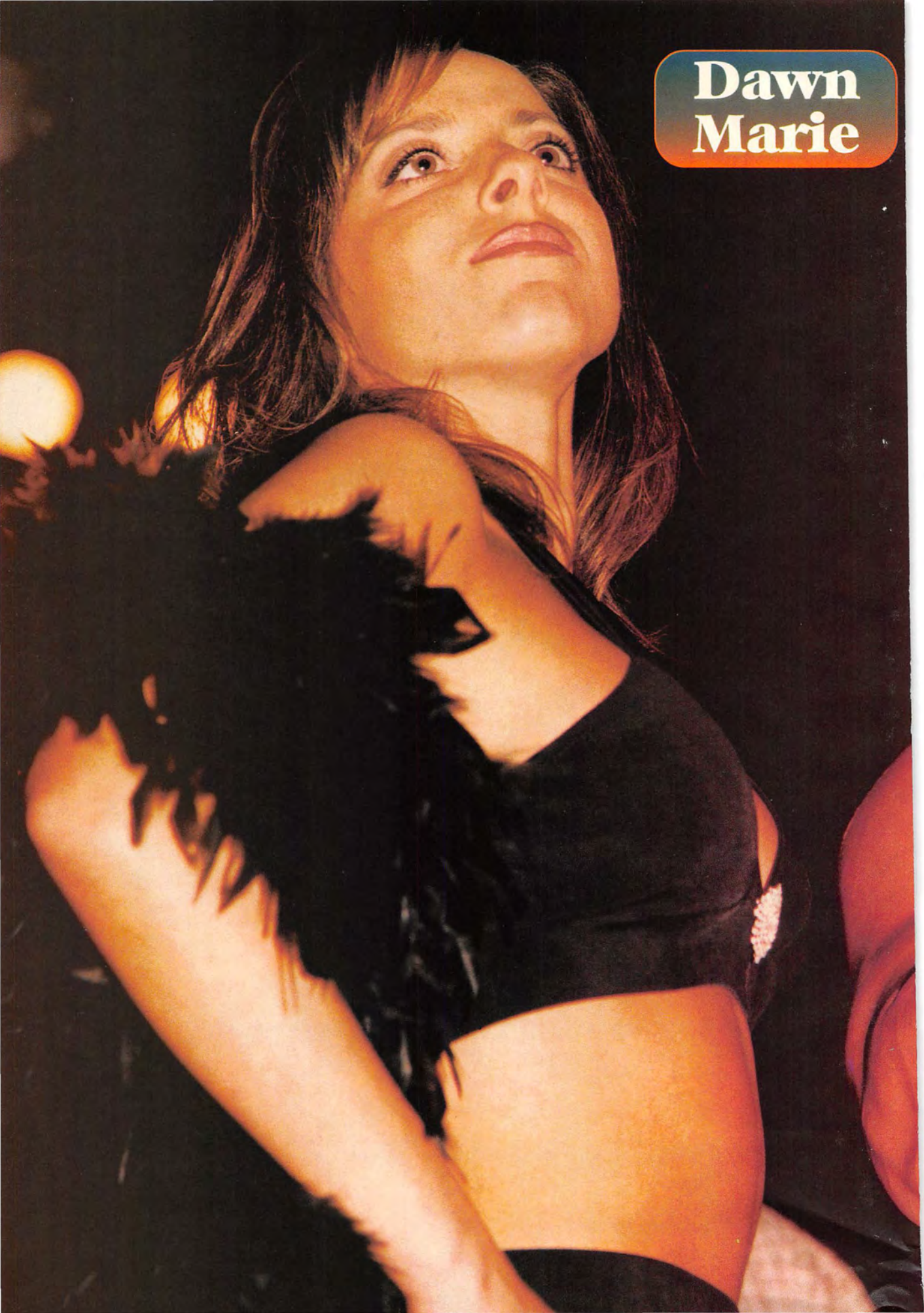


**Rick Steiner
vs. Booker T**



Kane vs. Pete Rose





**Dawn
Marie**

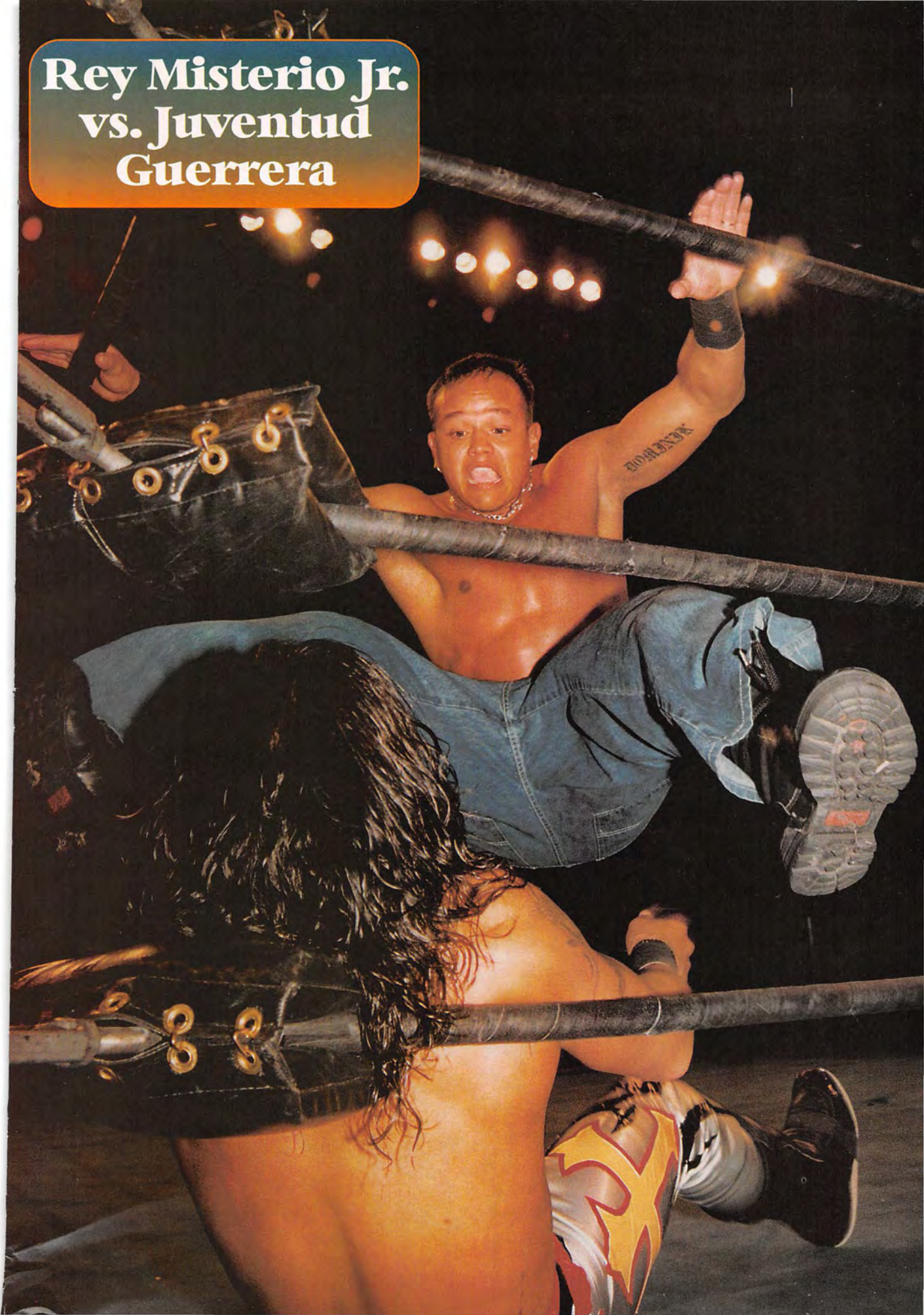
**Bam Bam
Bigelow
vs. Saturn**



**X-Pac vs.
Bradshaw**



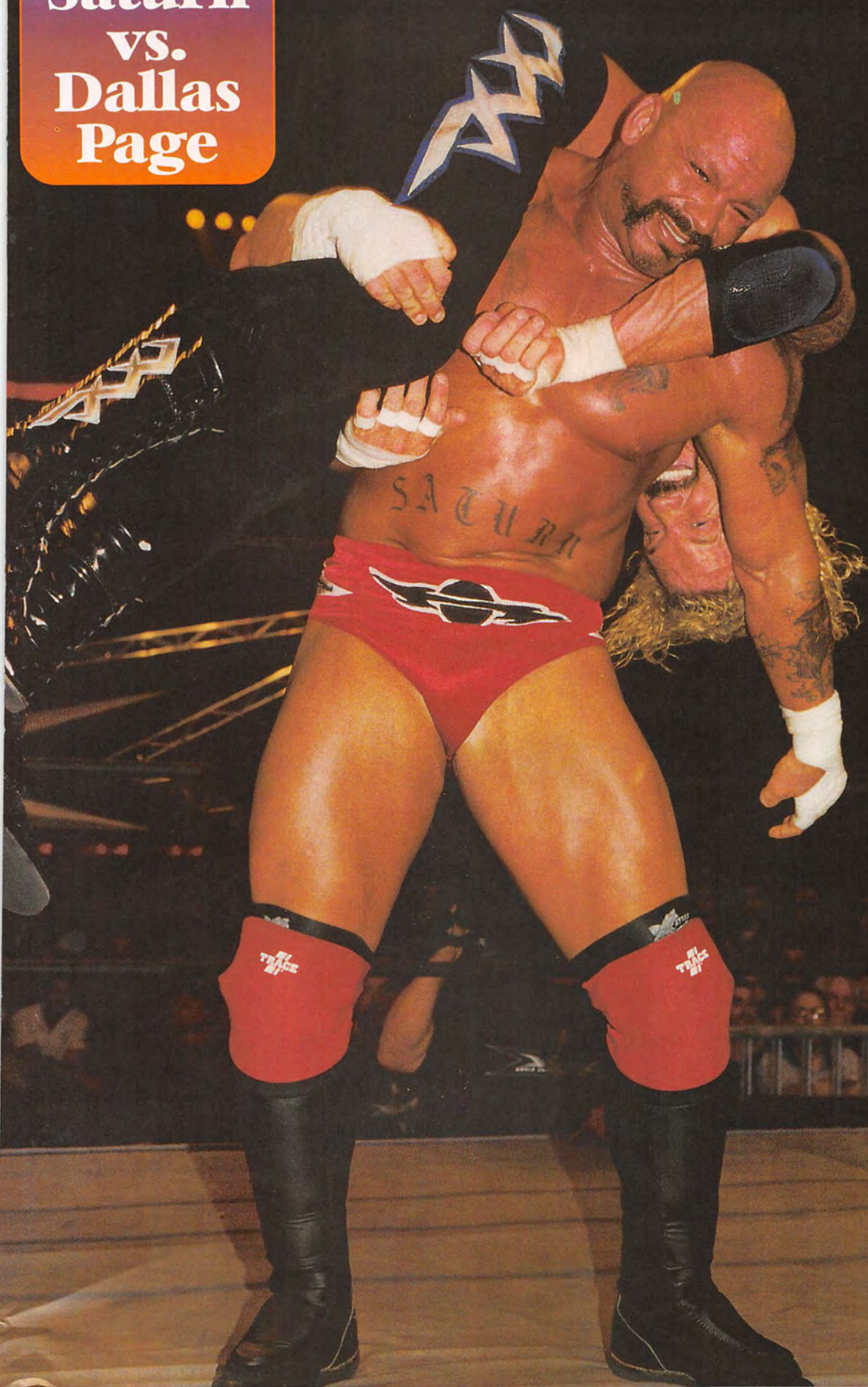
**Rey Misterio Jr.
vs. Juventud
Guerrera**



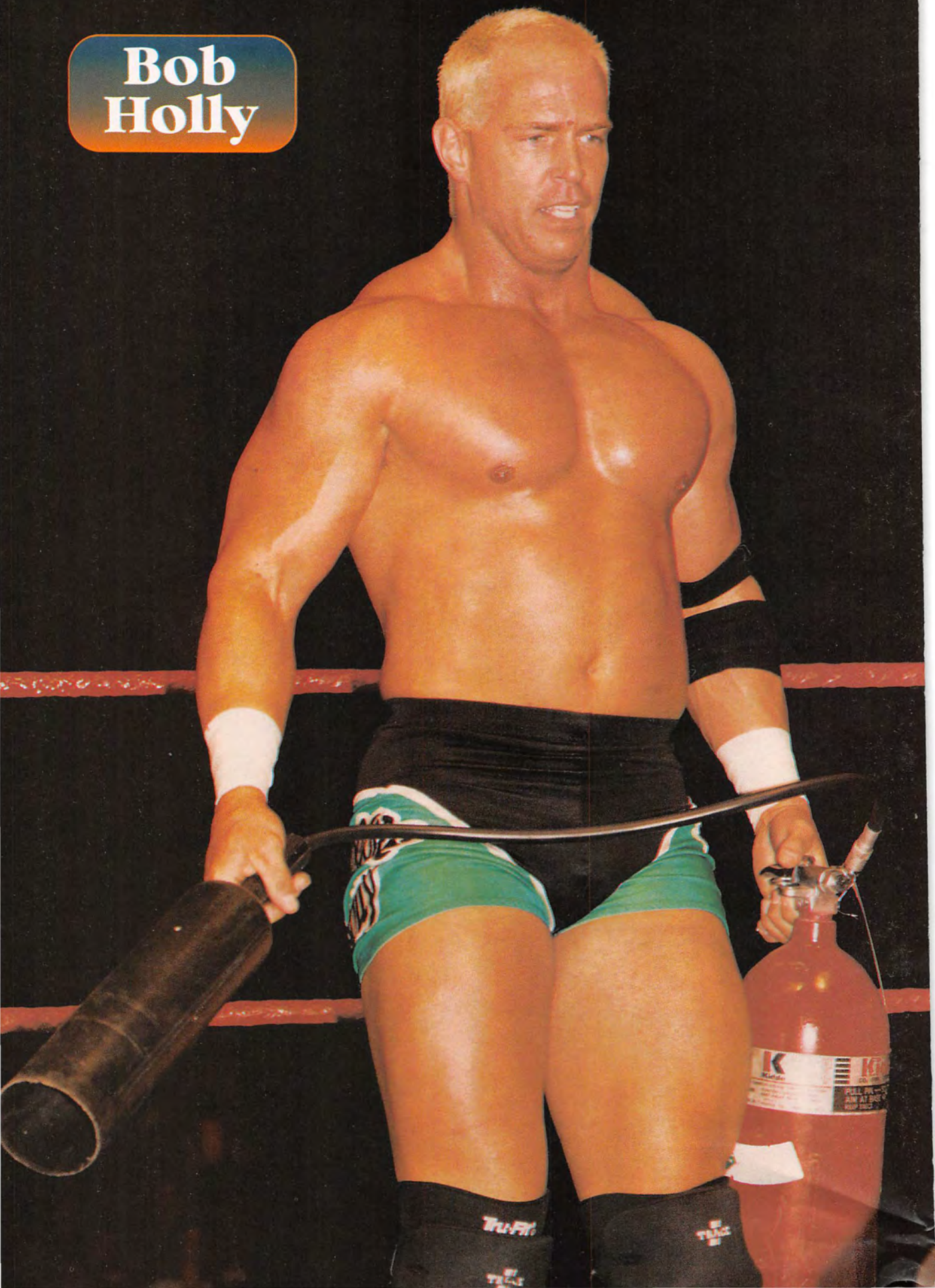
**Ken
Shamrock**



**Saturn
vs.
Dallas
Page**

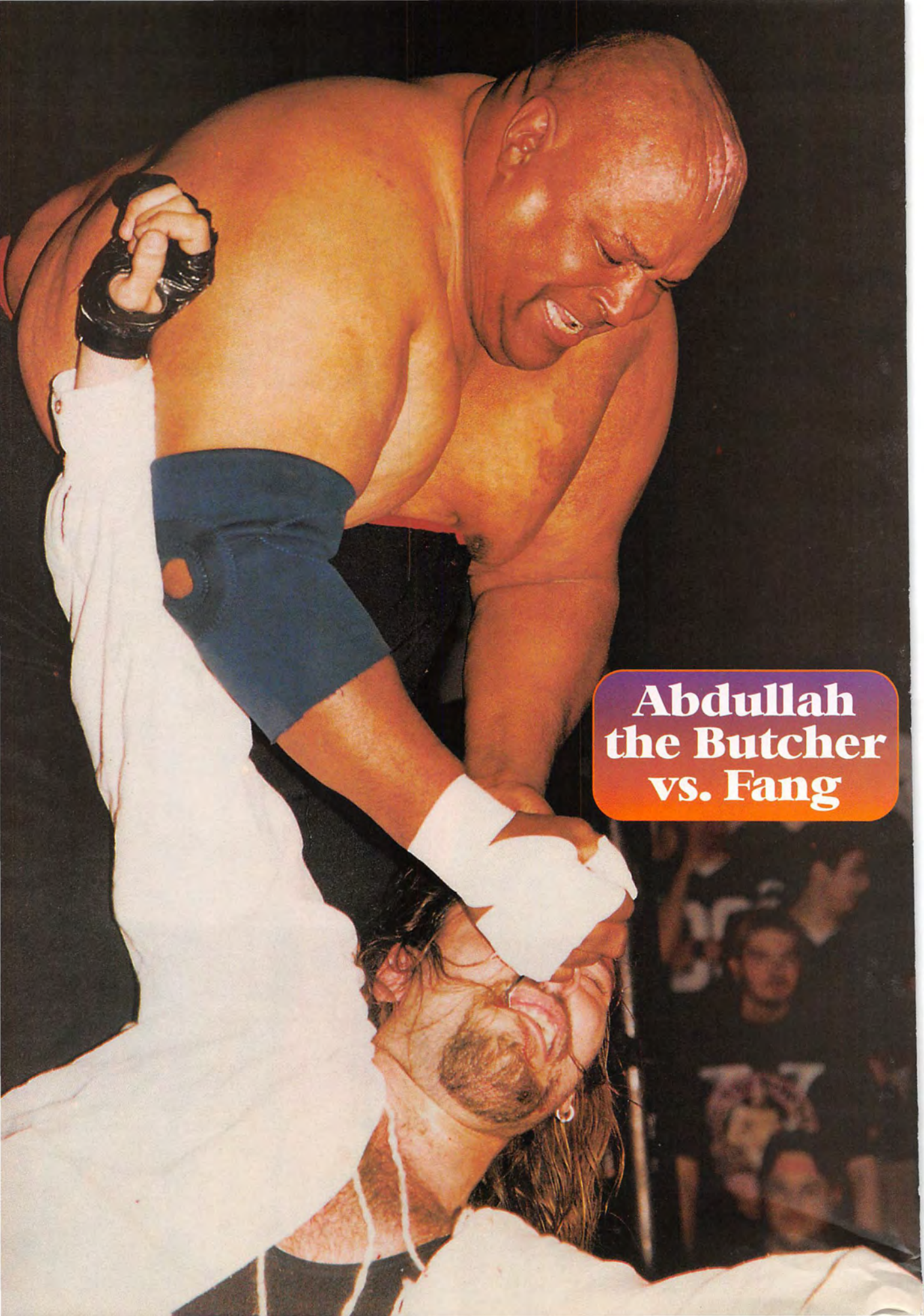


**Bob
Holly**



A full-page photograph of Chyna, a professional wrestler, standing in a crowd. She is wearing a black, studded, form-fitting top and matching shorts, along with black leather gloves and boots. She is looking over her shoulder towards the camera. In the background, several people are visible, including a man in a light blue shirt with his back to the camera, and others holding signs. One sign reads "WHAT THE ROCK... IS A LICKER" and another reads "CHYNA KEHRES IS A LICKER".

Chyna



**Abdullah
the Butcher
vs. Fang**

Midian





**Goldberg
vs. Sting**

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SCOUTING REPORT:

TAZ



CAREER OVERVIEW: He's a human suplex machine: 5'9" and 248 pounds of pure muscle on a stout, sturdy body, topped by a ferocious-looking face. He made his pro debut in 1987, but was rather nomadic in his early years. It wasn't until he started wrestling in ECW that he felt at home. Over the last three years he has been virtually unbeatable. On June 7, 1997, he beat Shane Douglas for the ECW TV title. Held the belt for nearly nine months and didn't lose a single match. Finally suffered a controversial loss to Bam Bam Bigelow, but went on to pin Shane Douglas for his first ECW heavyweight title on January 10, 1999. Along the way, he has won two ECW tag team titles and two ECW TV titles.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 15 to 20 minutes. Taz refuses to submit, is difficult

to wear down, and has tremendous determination. Beating him in the first 15 minutes of a match is nearly impossible.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 22 to 30 minutes. Taz' losses are rare simply because his matches don't last that long. Although he has good stamina, a lot of it is derived more from his mental toughness rather than from a strict cardiovascular regimen.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Sabu. He loves wrestling his former tag team partner. Wrestling Sabu brings out the best in Taz and forces him to dig deep inside himself. Sabu and Taz have had some of the finest matches in ECW history, and Taz has usually come out on top.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Big, slow brawlers who don't have enough skill to beat Taz. Sure, he usually beats them, but they just don't get his adrenaline flowing.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Outside interference. These days, it's about the only way to beat Taz. He's a fine wrestler and counterwrestler. He has tremendous strength along with what seem like a million suplexes in his repertoire.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A manager. Sure, Taz is a little gun shy when it comes to managers because of

his experience with Bill Alfonso, but a manager (or even a good friend) could take care of his business and watch his back.

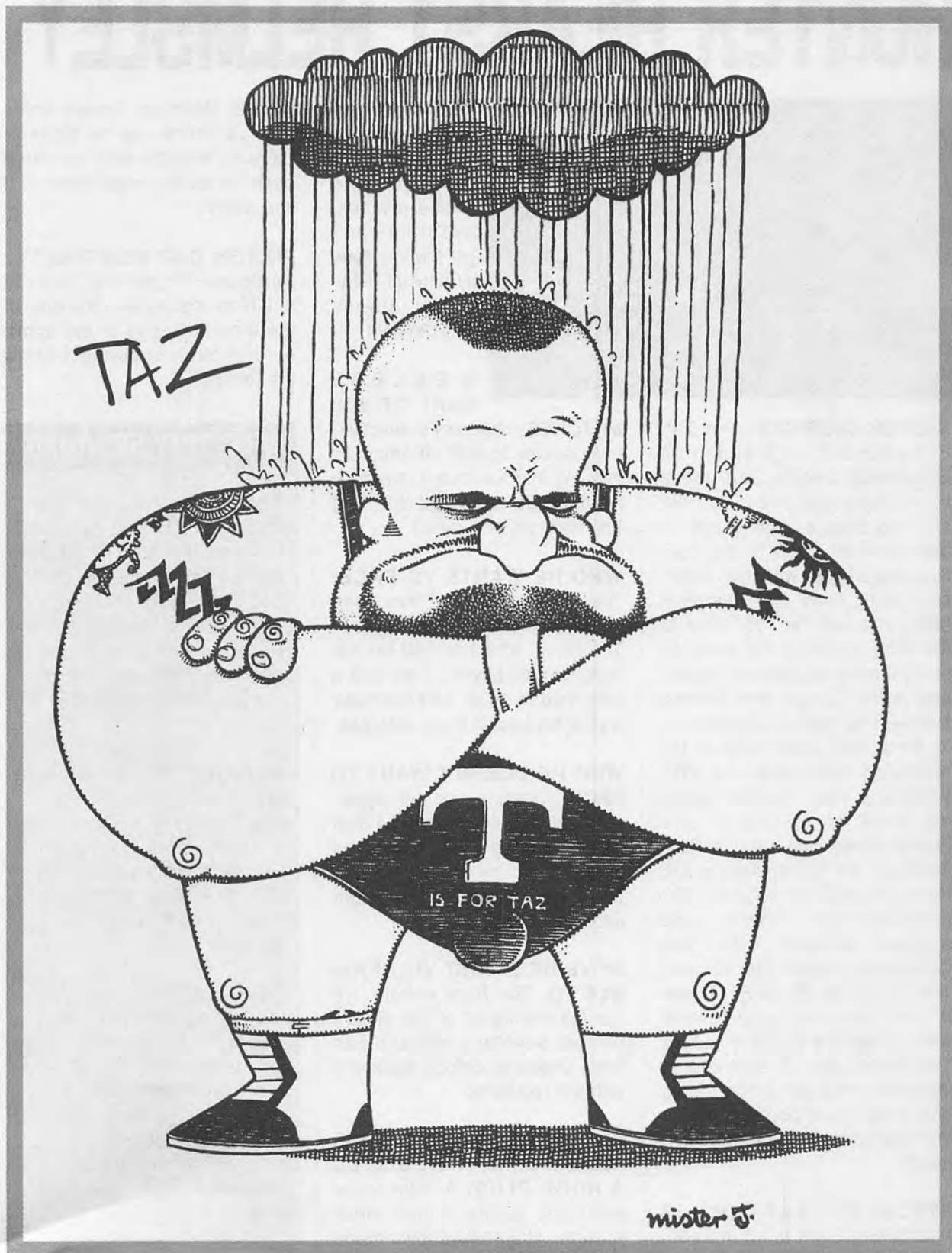
WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Taz-mission. There isn't a more punishing submission hold in all of wrestling. Very few wrestlers in ECW are strong enough to power out of it, and most end up doing exactly what Taz predicted they would—tapping out.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Bill Alfonso: "What do you want me to say, that he's a great wrestler, that I'm sorry he and Sabu ever broke up? Well, I'm not going to say that, because I wouldn't mean it. The fact of the matter is that Taz is a damn good wrestler, but he isn't the best. He isn't Sabu."

Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "It's hard to imagine that Taz wouldn't do some serious damage in WCW or the WWF. He's simply too good a wrestler, and he's strong enough that if he has to match power with the big guys, he'd get by."

Steve Corino: "Taz is super. Taz rules. I mean, I'm not sure I could beat Taz on his worst day. That's saying a lot. I may talk smack when he's not around, but that's only because he told me to. Taz told me to say he's no good. That way I can look good in front of the crowd."



SCOUTING REPORT:

HUNTER HEARST HELMSLEY



CAREER OVERVIEW: The 6'4", 279-pound blue blood from Greenwich, Connecticut, made his professional debut in 1992 and has been a major player in the WWF for most of the past five years. Has won two Intercontinental titles, two European titles, and was the 1997 King of the Ring. Enlisted the services of his female bodyguard, Chyna, and joined forces with Shawn Michaels to form DeGeneration X. Took over leadership of DX following WrestleMania XIV. Early this year, Chyna turned her back on "Triple-H" and joined Vince McMahon's Corporation. At WrestleMania XV, Hunter turned his back on DX, reunited with Chyna, and aligned himself with The Corporation (which later became The Corporate Ministry). "Triple-H" has been having problems with Corporate Ministry leader The Undertaker. A split seems imminent. Has gone from being one of the most popular men in the federation to one of the most hated.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Eight to 13 minutes.

He is strong enough to overpower opponents in the middle minutes, and if he can't get the job done by himself, Chyna is always there to help.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS

MATCHES: Helmsley's effectiveness seems to trail off about 15 minutes into the match, although his matches rarely last that long (thanks in part to Chyna).

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: The Rock. "Triple-H" has done some of his best work against The Rock, who has had trouble matching his power. They had a long feud in 1998, and Helmsley was at his best in those matches.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Wrestlers who are bigger, stronger, and more powerful than he is. The Big Show has given Helmsley fits; he doesn't seem to be able to adjust for the height and weight differential.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The Rock bottom. He has felt the impact of The Rock's finisher several times and has been unable to defend against it with any regularity.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A little more scientific ability. Some more stamina. Maybe less reliance on

Chyna. Helmsley knows she's always there, so he doesn't have to wrestle with as much intensity as he would have to if she wasn't.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Pedigree. "Triple-H's" favorite finishing maneuver. It's one of the most effective in the sport, even though opponents know it's coming.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

The Rock: "The Rock says that Hunter Hearst Helmsley has never beaten The Rock fair and square even once, and as long as that genetic freak Chyna is around, The Rock is never going to get a fair chance at kicking his (butt) just like he's always wanted to do."

Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz: "He's annoying. His constant reliance on Chyna is annoying. I don't know why, but these wrestlers who were born with a silver spoon in their mouths just get my goat."

Chyna: "He's a man, a real man, and the best damn wrestler in the federation. The only times I have to help him out is when he's getting cheated, which happens all the time. I never really know what he's going to do next, but whatever it is, I'll be by his side."

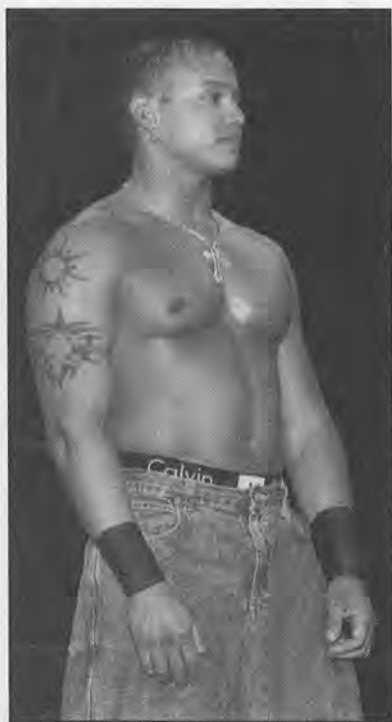
CHYNA & HUNTER HEARST HELMSLEY



mister J.

SCOUTING REPORT:

REY MISTERIO JR.



CAREER OVERVIEW: With or without a mask, high-flying Rey Mysterio Jr. is one of the most magnificent performers in wrestling ... and he's only 5'3", 140 pounds. Beat Dean Malenko for his first WCW cruiserweight title on July 8, 1996. Has since won the belt four more times, beating Eddy Guerrero, Juventud Guerrera, Billy Kidman, and Psicosis. Won his first world title in 1999 when he and Kidman teamed to beat Malenko and Chris Benoit for the WCW World tag team belts on March 29 in Toronto. Was forced to take off his mask when he and Konnan lost to Kevin Nash and Scott Hall at SuperBrawl '99, but he kept on winning.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 10 to 15 minutes.

Although Mysterio always comes out flying, he isn't strong enough to wear down opponents in the opening five minutes. So he keeps up his relentless acrobatic attack by moving and countermoving until finally putting his opponent in a position in which he can't keep up.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Three to seven minutes. This is when Mysterio is especially vulnerable to big, brawling strong men who still have all their strength and power. Mysterio is great when he can make quick strikes, but when he gets caught in a bigger man's grasp, he's in big trouble.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Other Luchadores. Mysterio is convinced that he can match moves and skill with any high-flying wrestler in the world. He is even comfortable wrestling on the mat, as long as the match doesn't turn into a brawl.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Kevin Nash. He pinned him once, but Nash has more strength in one hand than Mysterio has in his entire body. Mysterio's high-flying maneuvers at times bounce right off Nash, who only has to get a hold of Mysterio once to end the match.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The power bomb. Mysterio's ability to absorb punishment is low, and brutal maneuvers like the powerslam or power bomb usually mean the end for him.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A little more bulk. He is simply too small to go up against the true heavyweights, and even a little too small to deal with the wrestlers in the 225-to-250-pound class. Mysterio should have no trouble bulking up to 160 pounds without sacrificing much of his mobility.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT: Huracanrana. Mysterio's signature high-flying maneuver is just one of several finishers opponents have to look out for.

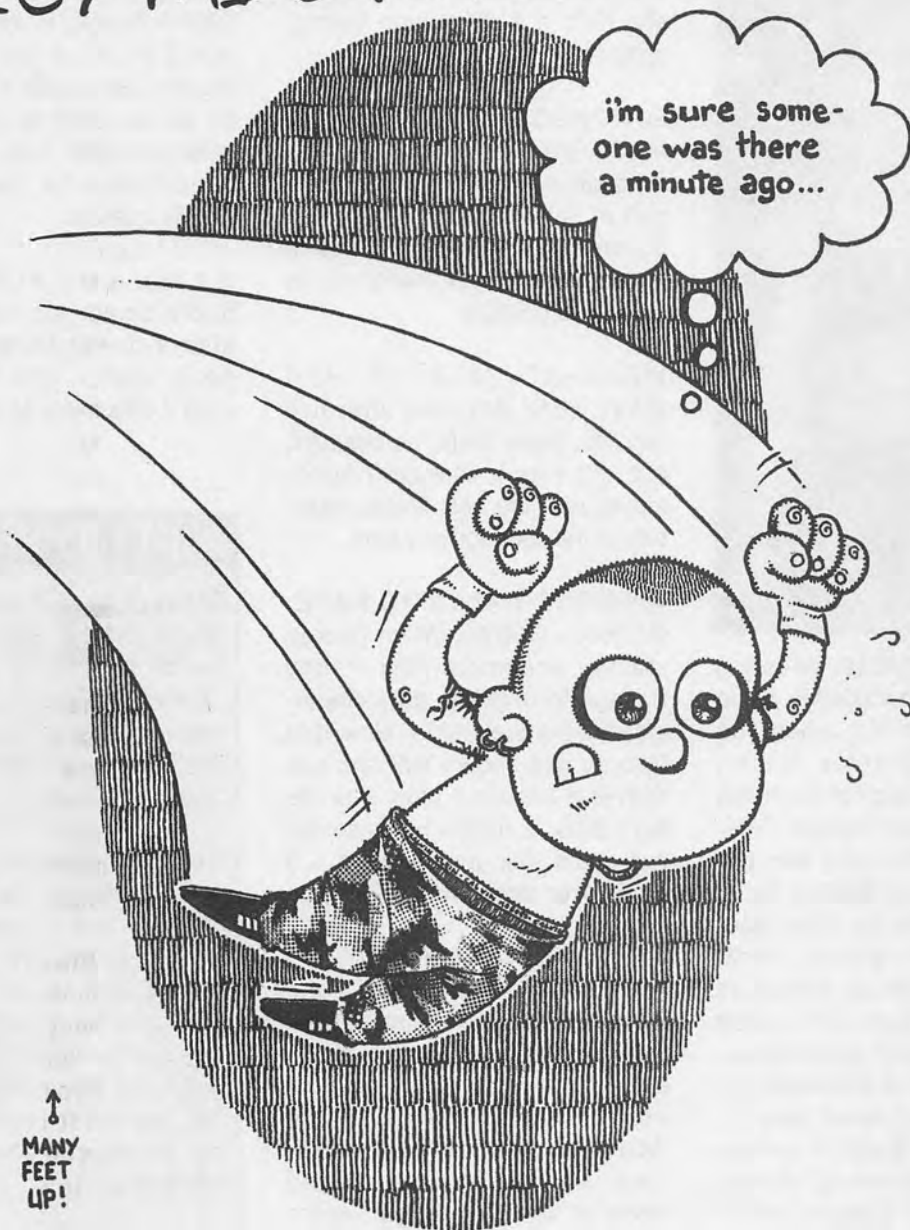
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Billy Kidman: "He's one of the greatest wrestlers in the world, maybe the greatest of all. Look what he's done against Nash and Bam Bam Bigelow, men twice his size. He's just amazing."

Publisher Stu Saks: "Nobody has done more to prove that size isn't everything than Rey Mysterio Jr. You take one look at him and you say, 'He's too small,' but it really doesn't matter when he's flying around the ring. He's so great to watch."

Kevin Nash: "You don't really realize just how tough the guy is until you get in there and try to beat him. Mysterio's got a lot of guts. He definitely earned my respect."

REY MISTERIO JR.



mister J.

SCOUTING REPORT:

SABLE



CAREER OVERVIEW: Wrestling fans were first introduced to Sable at WrestleMania XII, when she accompanied Hunter Hearst Helmsley to the ring for his match with The Ultimate Warrior. After losing the match in less than two minutes, Helmsley blamed Sable for the loss, prompting Marc Mero to come to her rescue. Mero, however, was just as jealous as "Triple-H," but that didn't keep Sable's career from progressing. She pinned Luna at WrestleMania XIV. At Over the Edge on May 31, 1998, Mero beat Sable in a match that meant Sable would have to leave the WWF forever. WWF head Vince McMahon reinstated Sable, who set her sights on the WWF women's championship. She won the title from Jacquelyn at the 1998 Survivor Series, then secured her place as the sexiest woman in wrestling with a layout in *Playboy*. In May, Sable and the

WWF parted ways, but not before she filed a \$110-million lawsuit against the federation.

STRONGEST PART OF HER MATCHES: The first five minutes. Adrenaline and energy are a big part of Sable's game. She comes out on all cylinders from the start, trying to end her matches as quickly as possible.

WEAKEST PART OF HER MATCHES: Anything after five minutes. Sable might be beautiful, but let's face it, she can't match moves with the best female wrestlers in the sport for very long.

WHO SHE WANTS TO FACE: Gorgeous George. When George started accompanying Randy Savage to ringside, the comparisons were inevitable. Now that George has shown that she can deliver a knockout blow with the big elbow, a match between the two would spur great interest ... if Sable ever signed with WCW.

WHO SHE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Madusa. If there's one matchup that would humble Sable in no time at all, it would likely be a confrontation with George's trainer. If Sable does sign with WCW, she would do well to steer clear of this fine all-around wrestler who's stronger, more experienced, and more talented.

MOVES SHE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Shots to the face. Sable is so conscious of her beauty that she can become emotionally distraught at the appearance of any facial bruising.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HER REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A few more scientific moves, maybe another finisher. Sable came to the ring as a valet and didn't have much of an opportunity to develop her wrestling skills.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Sable bomb. It's nothing more than a power bomb, but it's a good finisher. She has actually used it effectively on men.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz: "She may have been the WWF women's champion, but since there isn't much of a women's division, the title doesn't really mean much."

Fabulous Moolah: "Hon, I've been watchin' this girl for a while. It's a shame that so many people are givin' her grief. Listen, we all know she ain't the best wrestler, but she's come a long way ever since her first match. Believe me, I know how hard it is bein' gorgeous and tough at the same time."

Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "It'll be interesting to see if she stays hot if she ends her involvement with wrestling. It was the WWF, after all, that did so much to make her famous."

SABLE

because of you,
i "pacific blued" ya'...
but vinnie mac,
i have to sue ya'...
now here comes the

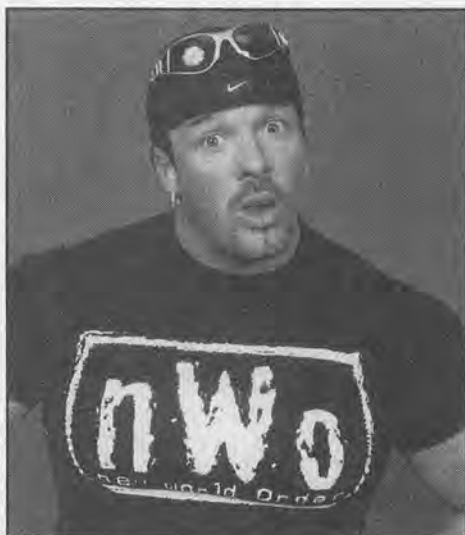
GRIND
ooo



mister j.

SCOUTING REPORT:

BUFF BAGWELL



CAREER OVERVIEW: The leader of WCW's youth movement against the old guard of Ric Flair, Roddy Piper, and "Diamond" Dallas Page is a seasoned veteran himself. The 29-year-old native of Marietta, Georgia, made his pro debut in 1990 and is one of the most accomplished tag team wrestlers of the decade. Wrestling as Marcus Bagwell, he won the WCW World tag team title four times with three different partners—2 Cold Scorpio, The Patriot, and Scotty Riggs—from 1993 to 1995. Although he is one of the strongest men in the sport, he developed his aerial repertoire before he put on his bulk. He is more well-rounded than one might think.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first seven minutes. Bagwell is a power wrestler who likes to attack his opponents early, pounding them into the ground with his raw strength. He runs into trouble when he

can't end a match relatively quickly.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 10 to 15 minutes. Bagwell lacks the stamina and the scientific skills to go deep into a match. Once his strength wears down, he doesn't have much to which he can turn, and only rarely does he delve into his aerial arsenal.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Roddy Piper. Bagwell is not only enraged that Piper turned against him at the 1999 Great American Bash, but he is convinced that veteran wrestlers like Piper and Flair are making a conscious effort to keep young guns like him, Chris Benoit, Perry Saturn, and Dean Malenko from climbing the federation's ladder of success.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Ric Flair. He might say he wants to wrestle Flair, but we can't see him either outlasting or outsmarting the "Nature Boy" on a regular basis. Bagwell has struggled in the singles ranks because he has a rather limited repertoire.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Luger's torture rack. Bagwell has neck and back problems. He is susceptible to any move that puts pressure on those two areas.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Some extra stamina. Unfortunately for Bagwell,

gaining stamina would probably mean losing muscle, and he has no intention of doing that.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Blockbuster. He used it to pin Flair, but Disco Inferno escaped the move twice before succumbing to it at The Great American Bash. One of Bagwell's problems is that he centers his entire game plan around executing the finisher.

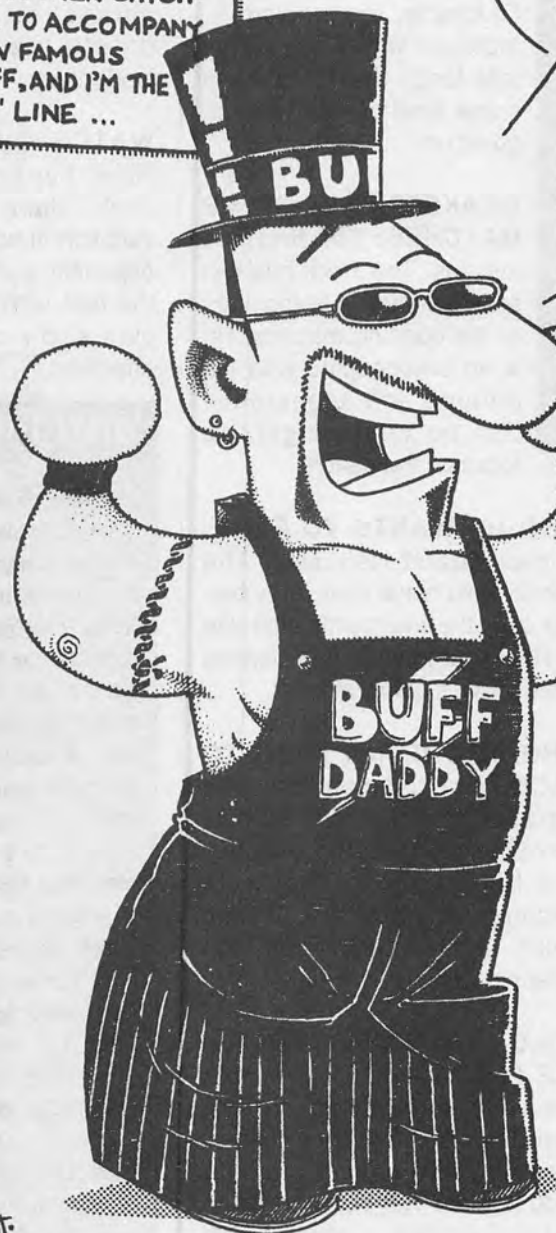
WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Roddy Piper: "Bagwell is an ungrateful S.O.B. who oughta take a look in the mirror and realize his place in WCW. First of all, he had no business interfering in my match against Flair, and second of all, he oughta learn to follow orders."

Contributing Writer Liz Hunter: "Bagwell is still a bit too one-dimensional to succeed in the singles ranks, and that's why I think he should find a good partner, somebody with some refined scientific skills, and get back into the tag team ranks. The WCW World tag team title is there for the taking."

Chris Benoit: "You gotta give Buff a lot of credit. He has more guts than most people in WCW. Look how he came back from that neck injury. And he's right about this: The old guard is holding us young guys down and hogging the spotlight. We're going to end that."

BUFF HAS A LITTLE TROUBLE COMING UP WITH ANOTHER CATCH-PHASE TO ACCOMPANY HIS NOW FAMOUS "I'M BUFF, AND I'M THE STUFF" LINE ...



i'm buff,
and i'm
kinda
tuff!

i'm buff,
and i'm
no puff.

i'm buff,
and i'm
off the
cuff ...

i'm buff,
and i take
no guff...

i'm buff,
and (unlike
homer) i
drink no
duff...

um, mister
buff... we've
had enuff!

PWI ♂
EDITORIAL
STAFF.

BUFF BAGWELL

SCOUTING REPORT:

THE ROCK



Rock is in good shape for a relatively big man and can wrestle deep into matches. Of course, the problem is, matches with Rock rarely last long; there's always some kind of interference going on.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first five minutes. The Rock has lost several matches to top stars in the opening minutes. He is so preoccupied with his attitude and appearance that he often forgets to focus on the match.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Hunter Hearst Helmsley. The Rock's most hated rival. They battled over the Intercontinental title in 1998 and now they're battling in the WWF's corporate war.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Well-rounded wrestlers with strength and stamina such as Ken Shamrock and Steve Austin. The Rock couldn't cope with Shamrock's anklelock. Austin simply has too much talent and determination.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The anklelock. Shamrock nearly broke The Rock's ankle at WrestleMania XIV. They haven't wrestled much recently, and for good reason. The Rock wants no part of Shamrock ... although he'd never admit it, of course.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Self-control.

Besides entertaining the fans, The Rock's big mouth does nothing but get him into trouble and enrage his opponents. He doesn't need to face an angry Undertaker.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Rock bottom. It looks like a choke-slam, but it's actually a variation in which he picks up his opponent and drives him down to the mat with his arm. The people's elbow is also devastatingly effective.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Hunter Hearst Helmsley: "I've been wrestling that loser for two or three years now and I'm still amazed at how stupid he is. He should know by now that I'm too much man for him. He's never beaten me cleanly and it isn't ever going to happen. Rock bottom? The Rock hit rock bottom a long time ago."

Jim Ross: "He certainly has changed his stripes quite a few times over the past few years and I'm amazed at how the fans have forgiven and forgotten. The truth is, he's a very good wrestler, one of the finest superstars in the federation."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "The rock has the whole package. He has size, strength, ability, and a ton of charisma. Rock and Steve Austin could carry the WWF for a long time."

CAREER OVERVIEW: He used to be known as Rocky Maivia, the third-generation superstar who was trained in part by his father, Rocky Johnson. Shot to the top shortly after making his pro debut in 1995. Now he's The Rock, one of the most popular and talented stars in the WWF. He's talented. He's cocky. He calls himself "The Great One." Signed with the WWF in 1996, shocked Hunter Hearst Helmsley for the Intercontinental title on February 13, 1997. Lost the belt to Owen Hart two months later. Joined The Nation, was awarded the Intercontinental title on December 8, 1997, after Steve Austin forfeited it. Lost the I-C title to Hunter Hearst Helmsley on August 30, 1998, and has since gone on to greater things: He is now a three-time former WWF World champion who has been on both sides of the corporate war involving the McMahaons.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Eight to 13 minutes.

...and then i'm
gonna put my
size ten boot,
right up your
roodie-poot*
candy ...

THE ROCK

his
daddy
must be
proud ...

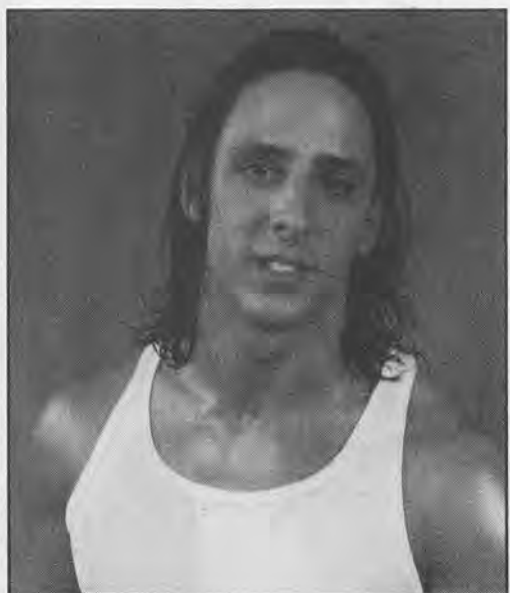


mister J.

*am i the only one who thinks
that the rock is ripping off
iceman king parsons, with this
sort of a comment ?

SCOUTING REPORT:

BILLY KIDMAN



CAREER OVERVIEW: One of the outstanding cruiserweights in the world, Kidman was born in Allentown, Pennsylvania. Checks in at 5'11", 195 pounds. Made his pro debut in 1994 and spent his early years wrestling in the independents. Won the TWWF junior heavyweight and ECWA tag team titles. Came to WCW and joined Raven's Flock on October 13, 1997. On September 13, 1998, at Fall Brawl, he missile-dropkicked Raven to help Perry Saturn beat Raven and free The Flock. One night later he won his first WCW cruiserweight title by beating Juventud Guerrera. Lost the belt on November 16, 1998, and got it back from Guerrera six days later. Lost the belt to Rey Misterio Jr. on March 15, 1999, but teamed with Misterio to win the WCW World tag team title from Dean Malenko and Chris Benoit. They lost the belts at Slamboree '99.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: First seven minutes. Although Kidman has outstanding stamina, it's during the opening minutes of a match, when he's at full strength, that he really shows off his spectacular ability.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Eight to 10 minutes. After his fast starts, Kidman tends to slow down a bit until picking up steam again around the 14-minute mark. Fortunately, few cruiserweights are strong enough to overpower him when he's vulnerable.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Other high-flying cruiserweights, especially those who aren't as strong as he is. Kidman is one of the strongest cruiserweights, and that's why he has an edge over smaller men such as Misterio and Guerrera.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Big men. Despite Kidman's spectacular skill, he has no way to defend himself against the giants of the sport, who need to do little more than get their hands on him.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Misterio's huracanrana. Fortunately, they're friends these days, but this is one move that Kidman has had trouble avoiding and countering. Most aerial artists spend their time coming up with new moves, not

figuring out ways to counter existing ones.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: About 10 pounds. Kidman is a borderline heavy-weight. He probably wouldn't lose much agility by adding some muscle and bulk, and he'd be able to go up against the big boys.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Shooting star press. His signature move. It's executed from the top turnbuckle. Kidman rotates head-over-heels before landing on his opponent.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Rey Misterio Jr.: "Kidman's one of the greatest wrestlers in the world. It's an honor to have wrestled against him and with him. One of the great things about Billy is that we have a relationship where we can wrestle against each other and team with each other."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "In my opinion, the cruiserweight division has saved WCW. If not for the cruiserweights, there'd be very little wrestling at all. Kidman is one of the most talented men in the sport."

Chris Benoit: "I'm impressed by Kidman, but I'd be a lot more impressed if he showed me some wrestling on the mat now and then. Then he'd be a little more well-rounded."

BILLY KIDMAN



SCOUTING REPORT:

AL SNOW



CAREER OVERVIEW: The 6'1", 232-pound native of Lima, Ohio, made his pro debut in 1982 at age 19. Although he has become a mid-level star in the WWF, Snow has never struck it big. Has wrestled in ECW and in most of the major independents, including Smoky Mountain. Has had previous incarnations in the WWF as Avatar and Leif Cassidy, but never made an impact with either name. Returned to the WWF last year, saying he had been psychologically traumatized as the result of his former personae. Now takes his orders from Head, a disembodied mannequin head that never leaves his side. A basic brawler with underrated mat and aerial skills, Snow won the WWF hardcore title on April 25 by defeating Bob Holly. Has defended the belt numerous times against Holly, Droz, and in three-

way matches against Holly and Steve Blackman.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Four to seven minutes. Snow isn't strong enough to overpower his opponents in the early minutes, but after five or six minutes, his tactics tend to exact their toll.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Seven to 10 minutes. At WrestleMania XV, Holly pinned Snow at the 7:17 mark during their hardcore triple threat match (Billy Gunn was the third competitor). He has decent stamina, but because he goes all-out so early, he runs out of gas fairly quickly.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Bob Holly. Holly's hardcore style makes him the perfect foe for Snow. Although Snow is unpredictable, he doesn't like wrestling against unpredictable opponents. Snow reads Holly so easily that you'd think he was a picture book.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: D-Lo Brown. Brown's combination of size, speed, skill, and power are too much for Snow to handle. He suffered numerous losses to Brown early in 1999.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Anything aerial. All aerial moves throw Snow off-balance because he doesn't expect to see them in the hardcore ranks. D-Lo Brown was able to stun him with well-placed dropkicks.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A

HUGE PLUS: The ability to pace his matches a little better. Going all-out from the opening bell might work for some wrestlers, and it has gained Snow the hardcore title, but going further in the federation will require Snow to think a little more about what he's doing in the ring.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Snow plow. Also called the Northern Lights suplex. Snow weakens his opponents for the first five or six minutes of his matches, then tries to hit them with his finishing blow.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Bob Holly: "How am I supposed to take seriously a man who walks around with a mannequin head? It's distracting and I think the WWF should ban it from ringside. Besides, is that mannequin head an officially licensed manager?"

Managing Editor Brandi Mankiewicz: "Snow has obviously gone way off the deep end, but he has managed to do it while winning a WWF title. Of course, it's a title that didn't even exist a year ago, but it's still a title that means a lot."

D-Lo Brown: "I can't believe that maniac is the WWF hardcore champion. I beat him already. If he wants to fight me again, which I know he does, he better be prepared to put that hardcore title on the line."

AL SNOW



SCOUTING REPORT:

THE UNDERTAKER



CAREER OVERVIEW: Born Mark Callaway. Wrestled in 1989 and 1990 as The Master of Pain, Texas Red, and The Punisher. Arrived in WCW in 1990 as "Mean" Mark Callous. Signed with the WWF in 1991, began wrestling as The Undertaker, and won the World title at Survivor Series. The 6'9", 328 pound-brawler became one of the most dominant and dangerous wrestlers in the world. Won his second WWF World title by beating Sid Vicious at WrestleMania XIII on March 23, 1997. Feuded with his half-brother, Kane, starting at the 1998 Royal Rumble. There was no decisive winner. Formed The Ministry of Darkness, which in April merged with The Corporation to form The Corporate Ministry. Won his third World title by beating Steve Austin on May 23, 1999, but lost it back to "Stone-Cold" a month later. With Undertaker, Shane McMahon, and Vince McMahon leading the

way, The Corporate Ministry has become the WWF's dominant force.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 10 to 15 minutes. A notorious slow starter, The Undertaker doesn't spring into action until he is on the verge of defeat.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first five minutes. Although he is very difficult to wear down early because of his size and strength, The Undertaker does very little during the opening minutes of a match (provided he's wrestling a top-notch opponent).

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Big brawlers like himself. The Undertaker has an outstanding record against big men such as Hulk Hogan and Sid Vicious. He wouldn't mind getting his hands on Hunter Hearst Helmsley and Chyna a few more times.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Multi-faceted wrestlers such as Steve Austin and The Rock. The Undertaker has not fared well against Austin and has had to work very hard to beat The Rock, who mixes skill with strength and doesn't let himself fall into 'Taker's clutches.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The Stone-Cold stunner. The Undertaker has been the victim of Austin's finishing maneuver quite a few times, and it's hard to imagine him coming up with the proper counter. The Undertaker is not an effective counterwrestler.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A sleeper. After all, what more appropriate finishing move could there be for The Undertaker than a sleeper? And because he has such a devastating clothesline, Undertaker could convert his clothesline into a sleeper, capturing unwary opponents.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Tombstone piledriver. An incredibly devastating finisher. It's set up by a hard clothesline or choke-slam and almost always followed by a three-count. Opponents rarely get up from this move.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Steve Austin: "The Undertaker is nothing more than a damn stooge who decided to take the easy way out by hookin' up with McMahon. Until he can beat 'Stone-Cold' like a man, one-on-one, I ain't got no damn respect for the dead man."

Publisher Stu Saks: "He is definitely one of the most fascinating wrestlers in the world. His aura is incredible. You know he can't come from the land of the living dead, yet you can't keep the thought out of your mind."

Paul Bearer: "I've seen The Undertaker on his darkest days and experienced the evil that is inside of him, and I assure you there is no more dangerous force in all of wrestling."



THE UNDERTAKER

SCOUTING REPORT:

MANKIND



up. Somehow he draws upon energy reserves that nobody would think are there.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first five minutes. He can come out strong and brawl, but he can also run into trouble against scientific and aerial wrestlers who have a full tank of gas.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: The Rock. The only way that The Rock was able to overcome Mankind during their struggles for the WWF World title was through the use of outside interference. He lost the belt to The Rock under dubious circumstances when Vince McMahon made it seem as if he had submitted in an "I Quit" match.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Steve Austin. They're on the same side now, and that's the way it should remain for Mankind, who would have a hard time finding a way to beat such a talented, determined, and strong opponent.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The Rock bottom. Mankind simply does his best to avoid The Rock's finishing maneuver, which he can't counter effectively.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Some counter-wrestling skills. Mankind has absorbed simply too much punishment during his career. Now he's starting to wear down. There

are only so many beatings a man can take.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Mandible claw. Opponents have given up complaining that Mankind's finisher is actually an illegal chokehold. Maybe it is, maybe it isn't, but it sure is effective ... especially when he has Socko on his hand.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Jim Ross: "He is simply one of the most remarkable athletes on the face of this planet. He doesn't even look like an athlete, but he has more guts and courage than any five men combined, and he has carved out an incredible career for himself."

Hunter Hearst Helmsley: "Mankind would be smart if he just stayed in the hospital and didn't try to come back after me. I smashed his knee to pieces? Good. There's more where that came from. If he comes back, he's even crazier than I thought he was."

Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "The man is scary. He seems to be impervious to pain and there's almost nothing that can stop him. When he came back at WrestleMania XV after getting choke-slammed by Paul Wight, I wasn't amazed. I was just shaking my head and saying to myself, 'This man doesn't know the meaning of the word pain.'"

CAREER OVERVIEW: Mankind, a.k.a. Mick Foley, a.k.a. Cactus Jack, a.k.a. Dude Love has become a major success through nothing but hard work and a refusal to take no for an answer. He is certainly one of the greatest brawlers in wrestling history, a ruthless competitor who will do absolutely anything to win a match. Has wrestled in just about every major federation in the world, but he didn't strike it really big until he debuted in the WWF in 1996 with his mandible claw. Won two WWF World tag team titles with Kane and captured his first WWF World title on December 29, 1998, with a victory over The Rock. He has been on both sides of Vince McMahon's corporate war. Underwent knee surgery in May and was expected to miss most of the summer.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 10 to 20 minutes. Although Mankind is a brawler with limited scientific skills, he is a lunatic who just never gives

MANKIND

Some people
put a sock down
their pants to
impress the girls...
me, i impress them
by taking one
out ...

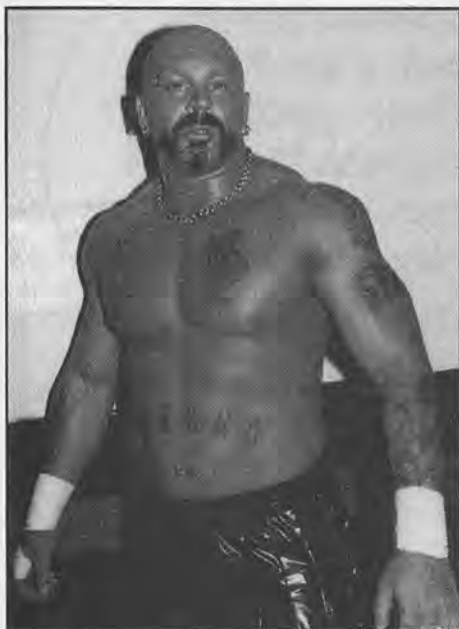
mankind →

← Socko

mister J.

SCOUTING REPORT:

PERRY SATURN



in an attempt to gain the early advantage.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: 14 to 20 minutes in singles matches. The longer the match lasts, the more he feels the effects of his knee injury. And because he likes to wrestle all-out at all times, Saturn wears down relatively quickly.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Ric Flair. Roddy Piper. Anyone from the old school. Their attitude bothers him. He thinks youth is the future of wrestling. And he loves wrestling against men who can't easily keep up with him.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Goldberg. Kevin Nash. Big power wrestlers who will simply avoid his aerial moves and then try to overpower him. Goldberg and Nash are simply too big and too strong for Saturn to handle.

HOLDS HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Figure-fours. All leglock finishers. Saturn should have sat out a year when he tore his ACL. He never allowed it to heal fully. One well-placed figure-four leglock could easily end his career.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: More power. It's hard to win these days with a one-dimensional attack. Saturn comes after his opponents with finesse and style, but there comes a time in almost every

match when a wrestler has to rely on sheer power.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Rings of Saturn. His signature hold looks like a variation of the abdominal stretch. It's not easily applied, and Saturn often expends too much energy trying to position his opponent for the hold. Could be one of the reasons Saturn has taken a liking to the Death Valley driver as his finisher.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Ric Flair: "Perry Saturn is nothing but a weird punk who thinks style is everything. Let me tell you something, the 'Nature Boy' has always been the king of style, but there's substance to mine. Saturn should get rid of those piercings and start looking like a man."

Publisher Stu Saks: "He's a strange man, that Saturn. I'm not sure wrestling has ever seen anyone like him, and there have been a lot of strange people in this sport. I just don't think he knows what he wants; at the very least, nobody knows what he's thinking."

Chris Benoit: "Saturn isn't conventional in anything he does, but that's no problem, because let's face it, conventional wisdom isn't very bright. He thinks the young wrestlers are the future of this sport, and I agree with him. The Flairs and Pipers need to step aside."

CAREER OVERVIEW: Although he is relatively small at 5'10", 234 pounds, Saturn quickly established himself as one of the most intense competitors in the sport. Spent a good portion of the first four years of his career teaming with John Kronus in The Eliminators. They held the ECW tag team belts three times. Tore his ACL in spring 1997. Doctors told him he would need a year of rehab, but he returned in less than four months. Jumped to WCW, joined The Flock, and won the WCW TV title on November 3, 1997. This year, he has already won the WCW World tag team title twice.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first eight minutes. Because he's small, Saturn likes to get off to a quick start and keep his opponents off-balance. He'll come out flying and kicking

PERRY
SATURN

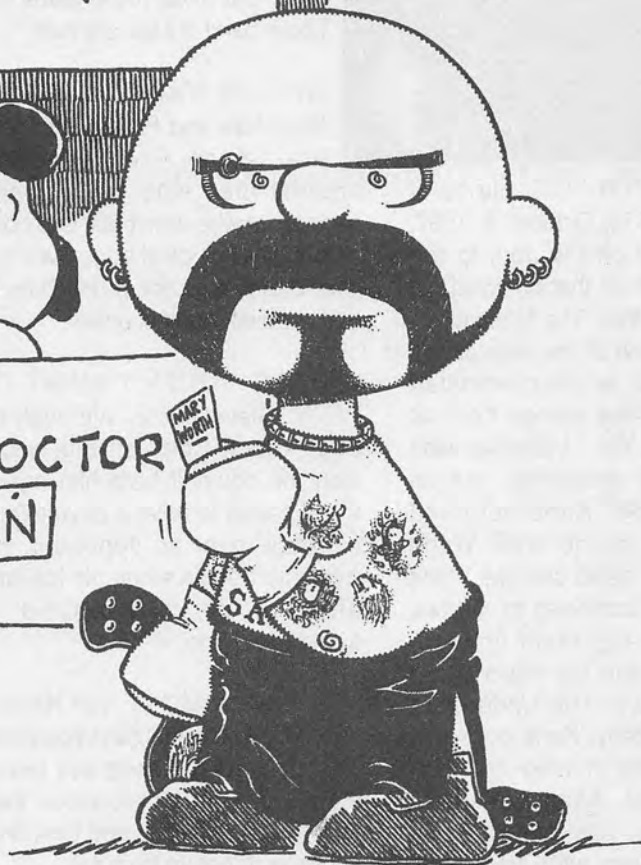
LOOK, I'M SORRY,
BUT YOUR PROBLEMS
ARE WAY OUT OF MY
LEAGUE... I USUALLY
JUST DEAL WITH CHILD-
HOOD NEUROSISES.

not
another
referral.
...

PSYCHIATRIC
HELP 5¢



THE DOCTOR
IS IN



mister J.
apologies to schulz

lucy@u.f.s

SCOUTING REPORT:

KANE



CAREER OVERVIEW: He burst into the WWF on October 5, 1997, when he tore off the door to the "Hell In A Cell" so that he could get at his half-brother, The Undertaker. That set off one of the federation's hottest feuds, which culminated when Undertaker pinned Kane at WrestleMania XIV. Undertaker won most of their rematches, but on June 28, 1998, Kane defeated Steve Austin for the WWF World title. His reign lasted one day. Kane and Mankind combined to win two WWF World tag team championships, but the big news came when Kane and The Undertaker reunited ... briefly. Kane got shots at the World title in three- and four-way matches against Austin. Recently, Kane has formed a successful tag team with X-Pac and has won another World tag team title.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The 6'7", 345-pound monster is a slow starter who

doesn't get his game into top gear until he gets into trouble. The best way to lose to Kane is to attack him from behind or make him angry. Once Kane is jolted into action, he's an imposing figure.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Kane is vulnerable in the opening few minutes of a match, when he hasn't had a chance to wear down his opponent. But once Kane gains the upper hand, it's usually over.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Bradshaw and Faarooq. In general, Kane likes wrestling against men who are big and strong, but who aren't fast and don't hold a psychological edge over him (like Undertaker does). He likes to match power against power.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Steve Austin. Although he beat "Stone-Cold" on one occasion, he couldn't beat him again. Kane needs to have a psychological edge over an opponent. He runs into trouble when his foe isn't afraid of him. "Stone-Cold" is afraid of no one.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The tombstone piledriver. The Undertaker used the tombstone numerous time when they feuded. Kane had a hard time finding ways to get up from it.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: Something that The Undertaker doesn't do. Let's face it, Kane and The Undertaker

are nearly mirror images of each other in the ring. They do so many of the same things. If you've faced The Undertaker, you've faced Kane.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Tombstone piledriver. Which is often set up by a thunderous choke-slam. Kane's tombstone is as effective as The Undertaker's and has a nearly identical success rate.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker:

"Here's a guy who won the WWF World title in his first year in the federation, but then he went and got locked up with Vince McMahon. Now he's wrestling in tag teams alongside X-Pac. Kane should be setting his sights on the World heavyweight title."

X-Pac: "When I first saw him, I thought he was just another big brawler, but the fact is that he's a pretty smart wrestler in the ring and he knows a thing or two about the psychological side of the game. It's simple: I wear them down and he puts them away."

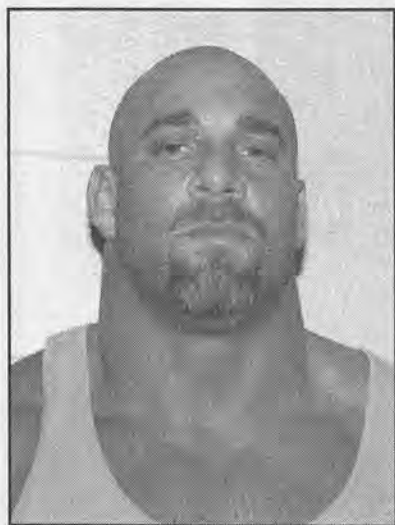
Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum: "Kane and Undertaker both give me the creeps, but I think Kane gives me the creeps more. I'm not sure why, but he's just scary looking. Kane looks like something from the dead. You just don't want to get near him."

AAARGH



SCOUTING REPORT:

BILL GOLDBERG



CAREER OVERVIEW: The 6'3", 270-pound former football player made his *Nitro* debut on September 22, 1997, put together an incredible winning streak, and won his first WCW World title on July 6, 1998, beating Hollywood Hogan. The NWO conspired to rob him of the belt on December 27, 1998, and although he hasn't lost a one-on-one match since, he also hasn't been able to regain the title. Now a knee injury suffered at Slamboree '99 could hinder his wrestling career, just as injuries ended his football career. At press time, Goldberg was in a contract dispute and possibly on the verge of leaving WCW.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: The first two minutes. He marches to the ring with a look of mean intent and doesn't stop pounding his opponent until he has finished the job.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Who knows? If he has a weakness, we haven't seen

it. Maybe Goldberg would have trouble in matches that last longer than 20 minutes, but we'll never know until we find out.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Sure, he hates Kevin Nash, and he exacted his revenge against "Big Sexy" with a spear and a jackhammer. But having already humbled just about every big man in WCW, Goldberg wants nothing more than to prove he can go head-to-head with cerebral superstars such as Sting on a nightly basis.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: No one. He actually wants to face someone who could defeat him; he wants a challenge. He might even enjoy a clean loss. It would give him a viable opponent. Without strong competition, what does he have to fear?

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: Having lost only one singles match in his career, Goldberg hasn't shown that he's vulnerable to any move. We would, however, have a hard time seeing Goldberg coming up with an appropriate counter for a leglock finisher such as Sting's scorpion deathlock. He suffered numerous leg injuries during his football career and again injured his knee at Slamboree.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A few more scientific holds. If Goldberg could add some more technical skills, there would be no way to predict his attack. Until that happens, his

opponents will at least know how they're going to lose the match.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Jackhammer. One of the most dangerous and effective finishing maneuvers in the sport is set up by Goldberg's punishing spear. The spear/jackhammer combination almost always results in a pin.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Sting: "It really got me angry when Bret Hart interfered in our match at Slamboree. That was getting to be a real test for both of us, probably the toughest test either of us has had in a long time. But I will say this: I'm looking forward to wrestling Goldberg somewhere down the road."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "The craziest thing is that the WCW promoters seem to have forgotten that Goldberg was one of the main reasons the federation was so popular a year ago. Once he lost the WCW World title, he became the forgotten man. If you ask me, Goldberg is WCW's trump card, and if they're not careful, he could someday become the WWF's newest weapon."

Kevin Nash: "Goldberg's biggest problem is that he doesn't realize that it's good to have friends in this sport. He thinks he can be the lone wolf, but it's only a matter of time before the lone wolf gets shot down."

BILL
GOLDBERG

GOLDBERG
SMASH
PUNY HUMANS!



mister J.

SCOUTING REPORT:

BILLY GUNN



CAREER OVERVIEW: The 6'4", 256-pound native of Austin, Texas, made his debut in 1992, along with his brother, Bart. Formed The Smokin' Gunns. Though lightly regarded at first, they shot to the top of the tag team heap and won their first of three WWF World tag team titles on January 23, 1995, beating The 1-2-3 Kid (now X-Pac) and Bob Holly. The Gunns went their separate ways a few years later and, after a forgettable stint as Rockabilly, Billy found a new partner, Jesse James. As The New Age Outlaws, Gunn and James won three WWF World tag team titles. Beat Bob Holly for the WWF hardcore title on March 15, 1999. Split with James in mid-1999, won the King of the Ring tournament, and is now feuding with his former partner and looking for shots at the World title.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES:

Like most tag team specialists, Gunn does his best work in short bursts and is at his finest in the early portions of singles matches, somewhere between five and 10 minutes.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES:

Gunn doesn't have an especially wide repertoire of moves or a tremendous amount of stamina, so he slows down when a match reaches double-digits in minutes expired. But he is learning to pace himself a bit better.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Fellow brawlers who aren't quite as big as he is. Jesse James fits the bill, and it certainly doesn't hurt that James isn't as strong as he is.

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Ken Shamrock. He might say he wants to wrestle Shamrock often, but he really doesn't. Shamrock has too much skill and too much hatred for him.

HOLD HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The anklelock. Gunn has succumbed to Shamrock's finishing hold numerous times and has yet to develop an effective counter (other than a timely rescue by Chyna on at least one occasion).

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A

HUGE PLUS: Some counterwrestling skills. Gunn is basically a straight-ahead wrestler who prefers to try to bully his way out of difficult situations. He needs to become a more effective counterwrestler.

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Fomouser. It's similar to the Rocker dropper that The Midnight Rockers used to execute. In Gunn's finisher, he wraps his leg around his opponent's neck and drives him into the mat. It's usually very effective.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Jesse James: "The old 'Road Dogg' isn't impressed by many people and he certainly isn't impressed by Billy Gunn. I carried his [butt] for too long and now that he's gone out on his own, he's having a little success. Don't worry—he'll regret leaving DX sooner or later."

Publisher Stu Saks: "A lot of people are criticizing Gunn for leaving DX and betraying Jesse James, but I have a hard time blaming him for wanting to try to make it big on his own. He's already won the King of the Ring, so he could turn out to be the next great singles star in the WWF."

Ken Shamrock: "He's lucky he still has a healthy ankle, I could've ripped it off a couple of times. Gunn has a big mouth and thinks he's a wise guy, but he isn't too smart to be messing with me."

BILLY
GUNN

i'll kill
that
cartoonist

BILLY GUNN'S
BAD DREAM...

SCOUTING REPORT:

VINCE McMAHON



CAREER OVERVIEW: Under his leadership, the WWF has become the most successful wrestling promotion in the world. On March 29, 1998, "Stone-Cold" Steve Austin won the WWF World title and McMahon quickly became one of the most hated men in wrestling. He has donned the tights on numerous occasions during his feud with Austin. Was involved in an elaborate ruse with The Corporate Ministry in an effort to screw with Austin's head. But it was only after he revealed himself as "The Greater Power" that his plan backfired. His wife, Linda, and daughter, Stephanie, subsequently made Austin the chief executive officer of the WWF, but Austin lost that job when Vince and his son, Shane, beat him in a handicap ladder match at King of the Ring.

STRONGEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: He really doesn't have a strongest part. He's a cor-

porate hooligan with big muscles ... and not much wrestling ability.

WEAKEST PART OF HIS MATCHES: Anytime from the opening bell to the end of the match. McMahon starts fairly weak and only gets weaker. By the time 10 minutes have expired—and he rarely gets that far—Mr. McMahon is ready for some oxygen and a good night's sleep.

WHO HE WANTS TO FACE: Well, he keeps on telling us that he wants to wrestle Austin. Of course, this is just another attempt to fool us. He doesn't really want to wrestle Austin; he wants to ambush "Stone-Cold."

WHO HE DOESN'T WANT TO FACE: Linda McMahon. His wife. And we mean it! Linda is enraged that her husband used Stephanie as part of his master plan to deceive Steve Austin. Linda and Stephanie are both irate and have joined forces with Austin to get revenge.

MOVE HE'S MOST VULNERABLE TO: The Stone-Cold stunner, of course. He's experienced it numerous times at the hands of Austin and never recovered. McMahon still has nightmares about the stunner he received from Austin at WrestleMania XV.

IF THIS WAS ADDED TO HIS REPERTOIRE, IT WOULD BE A HUGE PLUS: A corporate stooge who would tell him, "Mr. McMahon, you're not a wrestler.

You're supposed to sit behind a desk and figure out ways to make money, not get into the ring and risk your life against some of the best athletes in the world."

WATCH OUT FOR THAT ... Corporate Ministry. McMahon has little wrestling ability of his own and is highly dependent upon help from The Corporate Ministry to just survive in the ring.

WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:

Steve Austin: "I used to think that [jerk] had sunk as low as a human being could ever sink, but to then make believe you're on one side when you're on the other, and to risk your daughter's life in the process? Hell, that's the lowest I ever heard. Let me tell you something, he's dead meat, 'cause 'Stone-Cold' said so."

Editor-in-Chief Dave Lenker: "I think the WWF's Web site called him the distinguished owner of the World Wrestling Federation. Well, McMahon himself must have written that copy, because he isn't distinguished anymore. The man's bias has blemished the history of the WWF World title."

Shawn Michaels: "Vinnie Mac might think he's smarter than anybody in the WWF, but if he's so smart, he wouldn't have hired me as commissioner. I'm having the time of my life screwing with his head."



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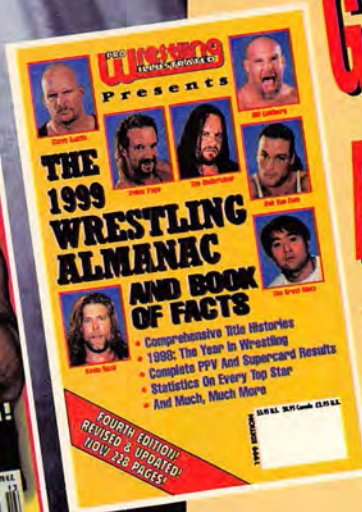
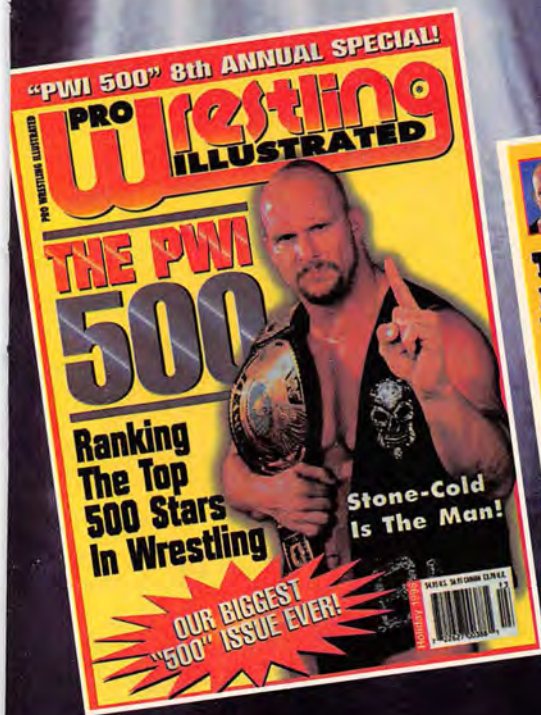
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